Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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No timely budget—again—for the new fiscal year. PAGE 3

Ex-UMDA director Pfaff pleads guilty in NYC. PAGE 15

Another immigration scam bared

'An embarrassment to the people of the NMI'

CNMI attorney general to review allegations

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) said yesterday he has asked the U.S. Attorney's Office to investigate another immigration scam, this time involving Chinese investor(s) promising U.S. "green cards" to those who invest at least $100,000 in a hotel project on Saipan before the federal government takes over local immigration on Nov. 28, 2009.

See SCAM on Page 4

"The apparently growing problem of these investment/immigration scams is an embarrassment to the people of the Commonwealth."

—Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP)

COMMUNITY SERVICE HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Thirteen inmates with minor offenses clean up a portion of the tourist district of Garapan yesterday afternoon as part of their community service, with the supervision of five Department of Corrections officers led by Lt. J.M. Quintanilla.

Fitial driver busted for allegedly selling 'ice' using governor's car

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A bodyguard-cum-driver of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial allegedly used the governor's vehicle to do business on the side—buying and selling methamphetamine or "ice."

In one instance, Pete Reyes sold the drug at the parking lot itself of the Governor's Office on Capital Hill, according to

See DRIVER on Page 4

178 enumerators needed for Census 2010

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

At least 178 enumerators will be needed for the Census 2010 in the CNMI on top of the managerial team, and there will be more survey questions this time compared to the last count in 2000.

The Census 2010 in the CNMI has a budget of some $4.8 million, compared to $3.5 million for the Census 2000.

The actual census date will not start until April 1, 2010, but

See CENSUS on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Julia Buckley-Ess, right, chief of the Puerto Rico, Island Areas and Overseas Enumeration Branch of the U.S. Census Bureau's Decennial Management Division, and John Blanco, director of the CNMI Department of Commerce's Central Statistics Division, answer questions from the media during a news briefing at the Governor's Office on Cap[ital Hill yesterday.

60 percent spike in medical referrals

'Total patients referred in FY09 at 907'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Health posted a 60-percent increase in the number of patients referred to medical facilities outside the Commonwealth in the last two years, according to the officer in charge of the hospital's medical referral program.

Ronald D. Sablan, manager of the Medical Referral Services, disclosed that the hospital recorded a total of 565 referrals in Fiscal Year 2007. This jumped to 816 patients in FY 2008.

See REFERRALS on Page 4

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Do you support debt forgiveness for CNMI scholars who fail to pay back the money awarded them for their college education?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS

PHASE 6

As of September 24, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

UN Message

President Barack Obama challenges world leaders to shoulder more of the globe's critical burdens.

NATION...Page 26

Guilty Plea

"Girls Gone Wild" founder Joe Francis pleaded guilty Wednesday to filing false tax returns.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 34

LIFE'S SHORT TYPE FAST

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Local

Calvo takes witness stand

Businessman Patrick Mendiola Calvo took the witness stand yesterday to deny the allegations that he sexually abused a 13-year-old girl last year.

During questioning by the defense, the 47-year-old Calvo said he did not inappropriately touch the alleged victim on June 11, 2008. He also denied inappropriately touching another girl.

Calvo said that on the morning of June 16, 2008, he went to the Department of Public Safety to inquire about the issuance of a warrant for his arrest.

During cross-examination, Calvo said the alleged victim was not telling the truth.

He also denied massaging the then 13-year-old girl and another girl.

He said one of his daughters is mad at him because he slapped her during an argument when he visited her in Oregon in 2007.

The daughter from Oregon had testified against Calvo on Wednesday. Calvo's other daughter also testified against him on Friday. The alleged victim testified on Tuesday.

The defense rested after Calvo's testimony.

The trial will continue today, Friday, at 10:30am. Jury instructions are expected to begin, followed by closing arguments by the prosecution and defense.

Earlier yesterday morning, Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja denied Calvo's motion for judgment of acquittal. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Certain entry-permit holders urged to renew permits ASAP

Certain holders of CNMI-issued entry permits who wish to renew or extend their permits beyond Nov. 27, 2009—the date when immigration provisions of the federalization law may take effect—are being urged to apply with the Immigration Division no later than Oct. 2, 2009.

Those affected include those holding the following types of CNMI-issued entry permits:

- 240F Diplomats
- 240I Foreign Press
- 240J Distinguished Merit
- 240L Ministers
- 240Q Comity
- 240R Treaty
- 240S Medical

Holders of other CNMI-issued entry permits who wish to renew or extend their permits beyond Nov. 27, 2009 should apply for renewal with the Immigration Division no later than Oct. 16, 2009. These include:

- 240B CNMI government employees
- 240U Employee on temporary assignment
- 240V Employee on short-term assignment
- 240Y Professionals seeking employment

Holders of entry permits in these classes who do not renew or extend will still have valid CNMI-issued permits until the expiration date printed on the face of the permit card, but will be unable to obtain renewals or extension from the CNMI government. These persons will have to apply to the federal authorities upon expiration of their current permits.

All permit holders are advised to renew or extend their permits at the earliest possible time.

For further information, call Maj. Ed Cabrera acting deputy director for Immigration at 236-0920/21/22/74. ***(PR)***

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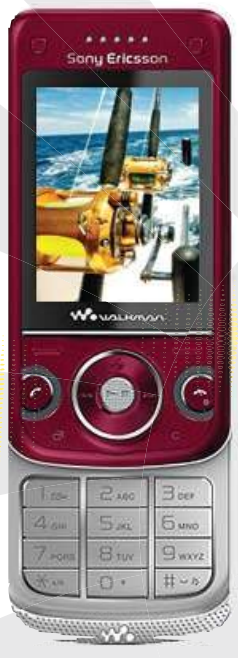

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No timely budget—again—for the new fiscal year

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI government won't have a new budget in place when Fiscal Year 2010 begins on Oct. 1, 2009. As a result, the government will operate under continuing resolution like in previous years.

The Senate won't be able to act on the 2010 budget bill passed by the House on Tuesday because it won't be holding a session before the start of the new fiscal year.

Senate President Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) told Saipan Tribune yesterday that the session will be held during the second week of October.

"The Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee just got the budget bill from the House and the committee needs to carefully review it. We cannot rush a budget. We need time to review it," said Reyes.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial submitted to the Legislature his proposed FY 2010 budget in April.

On Tuesday, the House passed on a 12-4 vote the FY 2010 budget bill introduced by House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan).

The bill is now with the Senate.

Press secretary Charles Reyes said the Fitial administration regrets that "it looks like we may not pass a balanced budget on time despite the fact that the administration submitted a balanced budget on time."

"Difficult decisions have to be made and it is up to our elected leaders to make those decisions. The administration has long been prepared to deal with financial realities responsibly. Although a balanced budget may well be unlikely, we are always willing to work with the Legislature and we still hope some agreement might still be reached," Reyes said.

The budget bill reflects $162.82 million in projected budgetary resources. Of this amount, $150.5 million is available for appropriation. There are no salary cuts but total non-personnel costs are reduced by $9.7 million.

Among other things, the bill creates a $3.51 million separate supplemental Retirement Fund account to pay for the difference between the retirement contribution rate of 16 percent and 11 percent for all government employees funded by the general fund.

It lifts the suspension of the remittance to the Fund of the 30 percent hotel occupancy tax and 20 percent alcoholic beverage container tax, and the remittance to the Marianas Visitors Authority of 25 percent of the alcoholic beverage container tax and 70 percent of the hotel occupancy tax.

PROVEN LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- **Reactivated** the Governor's Council, a constitutional body comprised of all our island mayors and our Carolinian Affairs Office
- **Secured** funding from DOI to explore the viability of geothermal alternative energy sources
- **Cleared** a backlog of more than 4,000 labor cases
- **Improved** the processing time for labor documents by revamping and automating the permit processing at the CNMI Department of Labor
- **Established** a local Labor website and created job vacancy advertising through the website to promote employment of local residents
- **Successfully** dealt with the closure of an entire garment industry and repatriated thousands of contract workers

Ben Fitial
Eloy Inos
2009

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McDonald's Singing Idol

McDonald's is inviting everyone out there to watch the first ever McDonald's Singing Idol on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at 10:00 am at the McDonald's Restaurant in Middle Road.

Elimination Day: September 26, 2009

- 'Pick your own song' and bring your own CD or Minus one.
- Five (5) participants for each category will be chosen on the Elimination day to compete on the final event.

Competition Three Categories

McDonald's Little Singing Idol
6 to 9 years old (starts at 10:00am)

McDonald's Junior Singing Idol
10 to 12 years old (starts at 1:00pm)

McDonald's Teen Singing Idol
13 to 17 years old (starts at 3:00pm)

Grand Finals
October 10, 2009
One Grand winner in each category
Great prizes waits the winners!

You've got talent! I'm Lovin' It!!!

McDonald's Super Saturday Specials

September 26

Breakfast Specials

Sausage Biscuit with Egg Sandwich	$1.00
1 pc. Sausage Burrito	$1.00
Egg McMuffin Sandwich	$1.00

Lunch/Dinner Specials

Cheeseburger Sandwich	$1.00
McChicken Sandwich	$1.00
2 pcs. Apple Pie	$1.00
Small Fries	$1.00
All Kinds of Happy Meal (Hamburger, Cheeseburger, Nuggets)	$2.99

Let's Help Our Schools! Come to McDonald's on September 26.

i'm lovin' it

Commonwealth Retirement Association Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Commonwealth Retirement Association (all members of the Defined Benefits program) will be held on September 29, 2009 at 6:00 PM at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The agenda includes the election of board members followed by a question and answer session with the four gubernatorial candidates.

William R. Barrineau
Chairman

REFERRALS

From Page 1

With just a week before the end of the current fiscal year on Sept. 30, Sablan said his office has already referred 907 patients to off-island facilities.

"In a two-year period, we saw about 60 percent increased in medical referrals," he said.

Just two nights ago, he said, two patients were scheduled for emergency evacuation to a Manila hospital but only one made it to the emergency flight due to unfortunate circumstances.

Sablan said the patient was flown to the Asian Medical Center in the Philippines.

He said the dire economic situation on island is contributing to the significant increase, with people dropping their health insurance coverages and pushing back their health maintenance programs.

Also, many patients seek medical help when it is "too late" or at the end stage for their illness, he said.

'$6M plus a year'

In a given fiscal year, the hospital spends about $6 million for medical referral, including the patient's airfare, medical bills, subsistence allowance, and hotel accommodations, Sablan said.

The Medical Referral Program gets its funds from the hospital's local annual budget.

Sablan said the emergency evacuation of patients depends on the advice of the referring physician and approval of a committee comprising four doctors and four advisory members.

He emphasized that only patients with serious and urgent medical condition are transported under emergency medivac to the nearest medical facility such as Guam, the Philippines, and Hawaii.

"Our policy here is to transfer patients to the closest facility that could provide the required medical services," Sablan said.

He disclosed that whenever they send a patient to a Manila hospital on an emergency basis, it costs CHC $45,000 for the airfare and $10,000 if he/she is sent to a Guam hospital.

The high cost is due to the lack of direct air jet services to Guam or Manila since the pullout of Continental Airlines, he said.

CHC taps the services of a private airline ambulance service based in Guam, which he said has its own medical crew onboard.

Sablan said most referrals also require family members to accompany the patient.

Off-island referral patients are mostly for encology, radiology, and cardiac care since such specialty services are not available here.

This year, he said, radiology topped the most cases referred. In previous years, cardiac-related cases usually topped the list.

Referral process

Once a completed application is received from the referring physician, Sablan said the committee reviews and acts within the week or every Tuesday, as regularly scheduled.

His office then requests for an appointment confirmation within days from their offices in Guam, Manila, Hawaii, or other recognized location.

Delays in sending referrals off island are usually caused by additional documents being asked from the provider or depending on the scheduling activities of the provider.

Sablan admitted they are also sometimes hampered by the lack of staff to accommodate all cases referred on a weekly basis.

On Saipan, Sablan has just five staff, with three persons processing between 175 to 200 approved cases. In Guam, they have only three staff handling 10-15 patients a day, plus coordinating appointments for those still waiting on Saipan. Hawaii, which has six staff, operates smoothly depending on the number of patients CHC sends there.

On a weekly basis, Sablan said his office receives an average of 28 applications for medical referrals.

He said they defer specific requests if the services required are available at the island's hospital.

"Medical referral is an easy target to blame without understanding the level of required documentation and what it takes to process each case. It is not just a matter of picking up the phone but rather a lot of paper trails due to accountability and specifically because we work with people's lives. I'm fortunate now to have a group of dedicated staff that their commitment overshadows the difficulties we face everyday but there only so much and so long we can stretch," Sablan added.

CENSUS

From Page 1

the application period and hiring of the managerial team has started.

Besides questions on population and housing for comparability of data from the 1990 and 2000 censuses, there will also be new questions "to see where the CNMI is going" or to identify trends over a decade, said Julia Buckley-Ess, chief of the Puerto Rico, Island Areas and Overseas Enumeration Branch of the U.S. Census Bureau's Decennial Management Division, yesterday.

"And those questions are [about] health insurance, computers and Internet at home, cell phone, and veterans/veterans disability," she said in a news briefing in the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill.

John Blanco, director of the CNMI Department of Commerce's Central Statistics Division, said there may be confusion as to the length of the questionnaire because of a press release issued in July stating that the Census 2010 is the "shortest since the first census in 1790."

Blanco said the shorter questionnaire is only for those in the 50 states, but not in the CNMI.

Buckley-Ess said the CNMI, as well as Guam, will have a Census long form questionnaire, which includes questions on population and some 20 questions on housing.

The 2010 Census is a count of everyone living in the United States and territories, including the CNMI, Guam, Puerto Rico and other insular areas.

"It would be very good for the CNMI to have 2010 population, housing, demographic and economic characteristics," said Buckley-Ess, adding that the U.S. Census Bureau has been working with the CNMI Commerce's Central Statistics Division on this since 2006.

Census data are used to distribute congressional seats to states, to distribute more than $400 billion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year, and to make decisions about what community services to provide.

The Census, which is mandated by the U.S. Constitution, is conducted every 10 years. The next Census occurs in 2010.

Buckley-Ess said the first field operations will take place in January.

In March, the enumerators will start undergoing training for the actual enumeration.

"We have budgeted for 178 enumerators," Buckley-Ess said, adding that the initial enumeration will take weeks and an additional six weeks will be needed for follow ups, for a total of three months.

During yesterday's news briefing, Buckley-Ess, Blanco and acting Commerce Secretary Sixto Igisomar also presented the 2010 Census adviser for the CNMI, Rebecca Díaz Cartagena, and Juan S. Borja, the manager of the Local Census Office that will direct the 2010 CNMI Census.

DRIVER

From Page 1

the criminal complaint filed in federal court.

Reyes surrendered yesterday afternoon to federal agents and was taken to the U.S. District Court for the NMI for a bail hearing. Attorney Robert Torres served as his counsel. The U.S. government charged Reyes with one count of possession of a controlled substance within 1,000 feet of a playground with intent to distribute. The case was unsealed yesterday.

The court imposed a $10,000 unsecured bond for the temporary release of Reyes.

Assistant U.S. Attorney James Benedetto represented the U.S. government at the hearing.

Special agent Daniel G. Holcomb of the Drug Enforcement Administration stated in an affidavit that a "confidential source" had told DEA agents in December 2008 about Reyes being a regular "ice" user and involved in the distribution of "ice."

The source alleged that Reyes regularly used Fitial's vehicle, a blue Nissan Pathfinder with CNMI license plate ABX 429, to buy and distribute "ice."

Reyes allegedly purchased "ice" every other Thursday, coinciding with the CNMI government's payday.

On March 16, 2009, Holcomb said, the source contacted DEA and told them that Reyes had offered to sell him/her a half gram of "ice" for $250.

That day, Reyes arrived aboard Fitial's Pathfinder at the parking lot of the Bank of Guam in Garapan and went inside the car of the confidential source.

After getting the $250 from the confidential source, Reyes allegedly left so he could get the "ice" from his supplier.

An hour later, Reyes called the confidential source, saying he was stuck at the Governor's Office and was unable to deliver the "ice." He allegedly asked the source to meet him instead at the Governor's Office to pick up the drug.

This prompted federal agents to establish surveillance around the Governor's Office, as other agents followed the source from the Bank of Guam to the Governor's Office.

When the source arrived at the parking lot of the Governor's Office, he/she parked the vehicle at the side of the building.

Reyes was seen walking out to the source's vehicle from the side of the Governor's Office. Inside the source's vehicle, Reyes allegedly handed over 0.12 grams of "ice" to the source.

Holcomb said the delivery was recorded on a digital recorder being worked by the source and was also recorded on videotape by federal agents conducting surveillance.

After Reyes delivered the "ice," he walked back inside the Governor's Office.

Holcomb said a laboratory's analysis of the "ice" showed that it was 91.1 percent pure.

"This indicated that Reyes delivered 0.10 grams of actual methamphetamine," the agent said.

During their survey of the area, Holcomb said they determined that a playground is located immediately to the west of the Governor's Office.

The playground included a baseball field, a tennis court, and a basketball court within its boundaries.

SCAM

From Page 1

Besides the $100,000 investment, investors from China are also asked to pay $20,000 in "government tax," but it is not clear who would be the recipient of this additional tax.

Sablan earlier asked the U.S. Attorney's Office District of Guam and the Northern Marianas to investigate a group of Korean investors promising automatic investor status in the U.S. if they invest in the CNMI.

"Much as the prospectus that came into my hands earlier this year offering Korean investors the promise of U.S. visa status in return for putting money into a project in the CNMI, this most recent proposition promises investors in mainland China that the U.S. will issue green cards to all foreign personnel on the island, i.e., an amnesty. This is just not true," Sablan said in a statement yesterday.

The scam also promises investors in China of U.S. citizenship to children born in the CNMI, and easy registration among Chinese children for entrance exams in "prestigious domestic universities."

He said the "apparently growing problem" of investment/immigration scams "is an embarrassment to the people of the CNMI and hurts efforts to delay" the implementation of federalization of local immigration.

"How can I convince those who have worked so long to end the scams and abuses in the Northern Marianas to allow another year of local control, when the scams continue?" Sablan asked in a statement.

Review of allegations

Sablan is urging the CNMI government to show that action is being taken to thwart the scams.

Press secretary Charles Reyes said yesterday the Fitial administration appreciates Sablan's concerns "and we will be pleased to have the Attorney General's Office review these allegations and take appropriate actions if violations of CNMI laws are substantiated."

Reyes, however, said the administration would need more specific information to take action.

"Unfortunately, there has been a great deal of misinformation about federalization, not just from investor groups, but also from worker groups in the past who believed green cards would be handed out to nonresident workers upon the full implementation of the law," Reyes said.

U.S. Attorney Leonardo M. Rapadas of the District of Guam and the Northern Marianas could not be reached for comment as of press time.

The two-page statement from Sablan's office did not identify the investor(s) involved in the scam.

The KSPN News last night reported Xanadu Club Inc.'s alleged involvement in the issue.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* after the KSPN newscast at 6pm, Xanadu Club Inc. chief operating officer James Chao said their company is not involved in any scam, and said they have not promised "green cards" to prospective investors.

"The shareholders are a group of friends. How many investors are willing to put money into the CNMI now? Not many. But Xanadu wants to help the CNMI economy. We hire local employees, and purchased rooms at the Palms Resort. We want to provide good vacation destination to our shareholders," he said, adding that Xanadu Club Inc. will be consulting its lawyer on the matter. But he said their legal counsel is currently off-island.

Last week, the United Micronesia Development Association, owners of the Palms Resort Saipan, said it has entered into an agreement with Xanadu Club, "a China-based high profile travel and time share enterprise, to provide vacation rooms for its members."

UMDA said "31 of Palms Resort's rooms have been blocked permanently for exclusive use by the Xanadu Club."

'Block them'

In August, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said in a news briefing that he was able stop Flame Sako Resort & Spa from publishing a marketing brochure that contains "misrepresentation" about the CNMI. The "draft" brochure had Fitial's photo in it.

"I was very glad when the governor announced that he would contact the responsible parties and stop publication of the Korean prospectus that promised U.S. visa status in return for a small investment. That publication had a welcoming letter from the governor and his picture, so it seemed like a direct endorsement by the Commonwealth," Sablan said yesterday.

He said the Chinese prospectus he recently obtained does not have any message from the governor.

"The CNMI government must be aware of these scams and should put measures in place to block them because the first step in the scam is to obtain a CNMI investor visa, and that is something that the local government controls," Sablan added.

Translated 'invitation'

Sablan presented a redacted copy of the translated invitation to investors used in the scam.

The invitation is in Mandarin and Sablan had it translated by the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress.

The invitation asks for investors to plunk down $100,000 and another $20,000 in "government tax" into a hotel project on Saipan.

In return, investors will achieve "quick returns" and would be able to avoid "the immigration trap." It also said there is no risk of being unable to recover capital.

The CNMI does have investor visas that require a $100,000 investment. But Sablan said it is not clear who would be the recipient of the $20,000 "government tax."

Sablan said he has provided a copy of the Chinese prospectus to the U.S. Attorney's Office for investigation. He said the U.S. attorney has already written to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano regarding the ongoing investigation of the Korean investment proposal.

House OKs land payment initiative, 14 other bills

By a 12-0 vote, the House of Representatives on Wednesday passed an initiative authorizing the Department of Public Lands to reserve up to 20 percent of its operational expense for land compensation payments.

House Legislative Initiative 16-18, HD1, introduced by Vice Speaker Joe Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), seeks to amend Article 11 Section 5(g) of the NMI Constitution.

The initiative aims to compensate more than a hundred land owners who are still waiting to be paid the CNMI government after being deprived of their land for public purposes such as roads, highways, right of ways, ponding basins and easements.

The House also passed 14 other bills during its session on Tuesday and Wednesday.

On Tuesday, the House passed four bills, including H.B. 16-132, HD1 which authorizes the Marianas Visitors Authority to regulate tour operators and tour guides. All 16 House members present voted on the measure.

On a 14-2 vote, members also passed H.B. 16-146, HS1, which establishes a Village and Agricultural Homesteading Program in the Northern Islands.

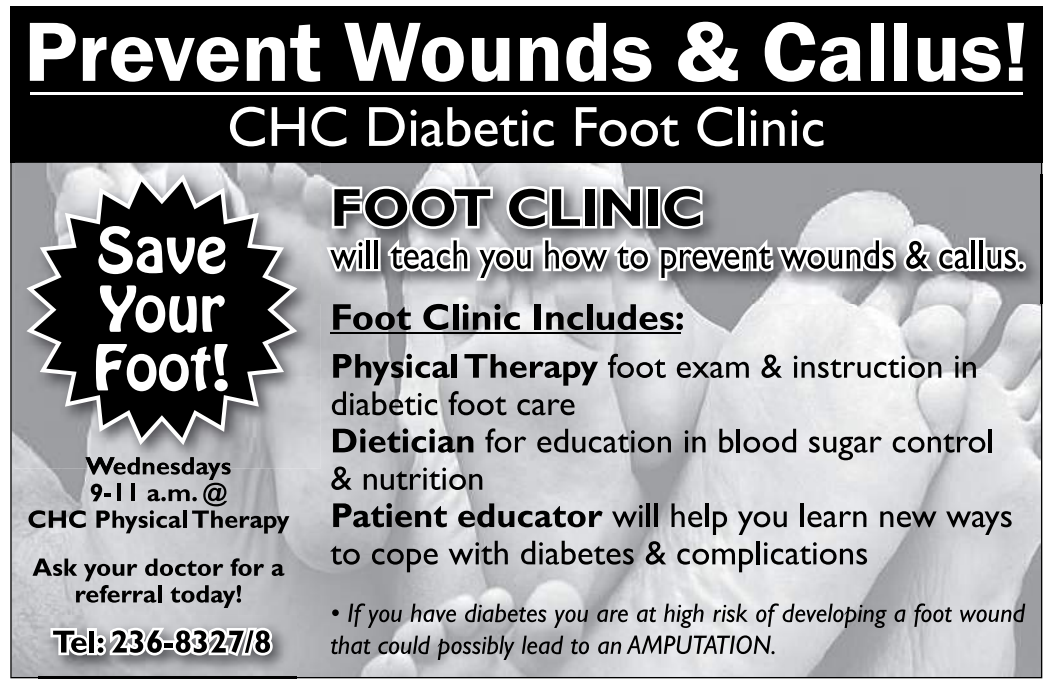
Also passed on Tuesday was H.B. 16-219, HD1, which designates Lau Lau Bay as a boat launching site to facilitate quicker response times for emergencies located on the eastern coastline of Saipan. The 15 members present approved the bill.

On a 14-1 vote, the House passed on Tuesday Senate Bill 16-23, which cuts unemployment among resident workers by encouraging them to work under contracts for services to the CNMI government for capital improvement projects that pay employees the prevailing U.S. minimum wage.

When session resumed on Wednesday, the House passed nine bills, including H.B. 16-235 which allows the erection of temporary structures used for public events; H.B. 16-178, HD1, which creates a comprehensive juvenile justice system; and H.B. 16-157, which establishes an Incompetency Determination Act.

Also passed were H.B. 16-116 which establishes standard guidelines for employees on military leave pursuant to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act; H.B. 16-238, which increases the fines to deter retailers from selling tobacco to minors; H.B. 16-122 which repeals the law that created the office of the Resident Representatives to Washington, D.C.; and S.B. 16-27, SS1 HS1, requiring all contractors to be licensed in the CNMI.

The House also passed S.B. 16-9, CS1, HD1 which provides a 3 percent simple interest rate for outstanding obligations of the CNMI, as well as H.B. 16-154, HS1 which establishes a Special Education Scholarship Program for students pursuing college or graduate degrees in special education. ***(Haidee C. Eugenio)***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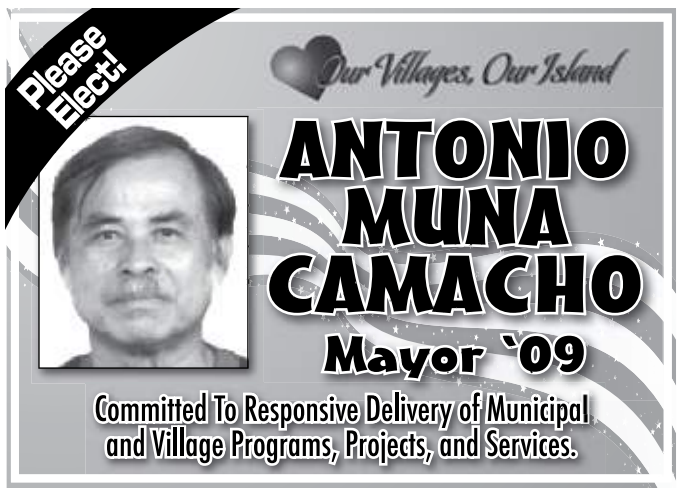
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Increase seen in demand for seasonal flu vaccine

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Due to a significantly huge demand at the Commonwealth Health Center, thousands of seasonal flu vaccines have been ordered and will be released to the public this year, according to Department of Public Health officials.

Medical director Dr. Richard Brostrom and immunization program manager Mariana Coats disclosed yesterday that the hospital received 3,000 doses of the new seasonal flu vaccine last week through the federally funded Vaccinations for Children program.

Brostrom

The shipment is the first batch of doses for children 6 months old to 4 years old. This age group is considered at high risk for flu complications.

The two officials urged parents to avail of the free vaccines for their children.

"The annual flu shot is the single best way to protect against the flu and an important factor is minimizing the risk and severity of flu infection," a DPH statement said.

The hospital expects to receive next week 4,000 doses more to cover community members who want to get the flu shot, particularly pregnant women who are among those at high-risk for flu.

In a news briefing yesterday, Coats said the volume of seasonal flu vaccines dramatically increased from previous year's average demand of only 5,000 doses.

"We requested more vaccines this year… because we saw the great demand," Coats said.

Brostrom said, however, that getting the seasonal flu vaccine is not a guarantee that people will be protected against the H1N1 flu.

"While the annual flu shot will not protect against the 2009 H1N1 flu, it is important that we do not forget the risks posed by the seasonal flu," DPH said, adding that the department is preparing for an early flu season and expects both H1N1 flu and seasonal flu to co-circulate, causing more illness and maybe even deaths.

The first batch of annual flu shots will be available starting tomorrow at the children's clinic at CHC, Southern Community Wellness Center, Medical Associates of the Pacific, Marianas Medical Center, Saipan Health Clinic, Tinian Health Center, and Rota Health Center.

Though the vaccine is free of charge, CHC officials said some private clinics may charge a minimal fee to cover administrative costs.

Coats said CHC will work with public and private schools to encourage students to avail of the available seasonal flu vaccines.

'H1N1 vaccines expected in Nov'

Brostrom said that CHC is expecting the first shipment of H1N1 vaccines in November, although they have yet to know the volume available for the CNMI.

CHC recently reported that the CNMI has 71 confirmed cases of the H1N1 influenza, although none has been hospitalized. No related deaths have also been recorded by the hospital.

Brostrom said the department has an excellent system of monitoring cases and has been successful in its preventive program.

He said the hospital is vigilant but he cautioned the public to take the precautionary measures to prevent the virus from spreading.

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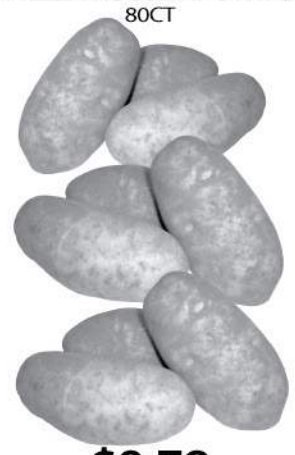

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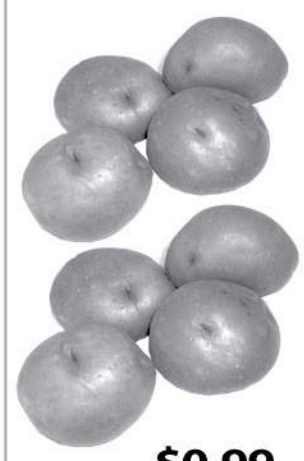

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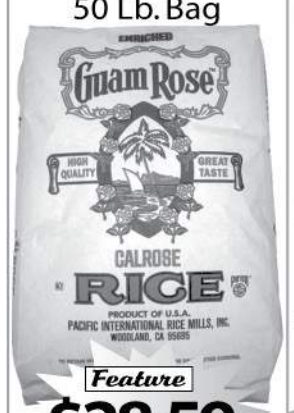

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Man arrested for burglary at San Antonio school

A man was arrested for allegedly trying to break into one of the classrooms of San Antonio Elementary School Saturday morning.

Martin Tiamson Castro Jr., 23, was arrested for criminal trespassing. A camera was found in his possession.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong said yesterday that on Saturday at 11:21am, police officers responded to a report of a possible burglary in progress at San Antonio Elementary School.

When Police Officer Jonathan Decena arrived at the school, a security guard on duty told him that the suspect was seen trying to break into classroom No. 5 in Building B.

The guard told Decena that the suspect, later identified as Castro, was last seen scaling the southern fence of the school.

Investigation showed that the security guard saw Castro removing the metal louvers from classroom No. 5 and was attempting to enter the room. The security guard ran toward Castro and shouted at him. The suspect ran away and escaped over the southern fence.

As Police Officer Jesse Cepeda was searching the area surrounding the school, he spotted Castro inside a car that was leaving the area.

Cepeda pulled over the car and radioed Decena, who escorted the security guard to Cepeda's location where the guard identified the suspect as the person seen removing the louvers and running away.

The driver of the car told police that Castro approached her at the beach asking her if she wanted to buy a camera. The driver refused to buy the item and, as she was about to drive away, Castro asked her if she could drop him off near the main highway. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Dandan 'Action Team' invites new members

The Dandan Neighborhood Watch "Action Team" is inviting members of the Dandan community to join the group and help improve the village.

The Action Team intends to build partnership within the community to reduce crime and improve its livability, instill a greater sense of security, and beautify the village.

"One of our target goal is to revitalize our community and the cleanup campaign is of paramount importance to instill confidence in everyone," said team captain Frank B. Camacho. "We have a lot more to do and we are ready to move into the village roadways for clean up. Let us be the role model on island with our village cleanup campaign."

The group meets at the Dandan Children's Park every Saturday morning at 8am and helps clean up the park until 4pm.

For more information on how to help, contact Camacho at 483-0764. ***(PR)***

Introducing the Saipan Mayoral Candidate—Juan Sablan Demapan & Family

BIO-DATA

Name: Juan Sablan Demapan

Elective Office Sought:
Mayor of Saipan

Education: BS Engineering, University of Michigan, 1975
The Executive Program, University of Virginia, Summer-1995
Two years advance studies in business administration – Seattle University & University of Guam
Marianas High School

Public Service(s): CNMI First Constitution Delegate – 1976
Senator & Senate President – 1992-1996
Northern Marianas College Board of Regent – 2009
US Navy Civilian Employee(Naval Architect) – 1981

Recipient: Congress of Micronesia and US Trust Territory Full Scholarships 1971-1975
Nominated and attended Mobil Worldwide Operations Managers Conference representing Guam and Micronesia operations – Fairfax, Virginia – 1986
Marianas High School Valedictorian

License(s): Passed Professional Engineers' Examination, State of Washington
Passed Engineer-in-training Examination, State of Washington

Experience: Professional engineering and business consultant and former Mobil Oil executive

Marital Status: Married to Rita Barcinas Demapan with four children – Carla, Beth, Jerome and Paul

Parents: Gregorio Deleon Guerrero Demapan
Micaela Atalig Sablan Demapan

Parents in Law: Domingo Blanco Barcinas
Carmen Deleon Guerrero Sablan Barcinas

Grandparents: Benigno Olupumar Sablan
Consolacion Hocog Atalig Sablan
Ramon Demapan
Ana Duenas Deleon Guerrero Demapan

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- Execute comprehensive "neighborhood patrol" initiatives
- Execute comprehensive "training and employment" initiatives for Saipan residents
- Execute comprehensive "job creation" initiatives for Saipan residents
- Execute comprehensive "cost lowering coop" initiatives for Saipan residents
- Execute creative partnership and management initiatives to reduce the cost and improve effectiveness of CUC and healthcare services for Saipan residents

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 25, 1999

Senate fires legal counsel

Senate legal counsel Steve Woodruff will have to look for another job when he returns from an off-island trip paid by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. The reason? Frustrated senators on Friday fired him for leaving behind his work in the upper house to focus on his other job at CUC, which hired him temporarily to assist the board in the negotiation for the Saipan's 60-megawatt power project. Several legislation are experiencing delay, while much-needed Senate comments on significant administration actions are not being drafted despite orders given to Woodruff ahead of time, according to members.

Teno okays creation of free trade zones

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio on Friday finally gave his approval to an ambitious plan to create free trade zones in the CNMI in a bid to lift the sagging economy, but urged the Legislature to correct several provisions he has found troubling. This is the second time such concern was raised which the governor pointed out early this year when he vetoed the first proposal. Mr. Tenorio said he signed Public Law 12-20, or the "NMI Free Trade Zone Act of 2000," citing the need to diversify the local economy and the two-year effort by both his administration and the private sector to lay down the plan. The new law is the centerpiece of the Economic Recovery and Revitalization Task Force which he formed after assuming office in 1998 in the wake of the economic difficulties confronting the islands.

Sept. 25, 2001

Warning up against mad cow disease

Reporter Import restrictions have been imposed against the entry of beef products into the CNMI following confirmed reports on the presence of mad cow disease in neighboring Japan. The Department of Lands and Natural Resources yesterday released a notice, informing the public of the disease which was found in one, five-year-old dairy cow in Chiba Prefecture in Japan early this month. Otherwise known as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or BSE, the mad cow disease is a chronic, fatal, degenerative disease that affects the central nervous system of animals. It causes changes in the animal's temperament, making them nervous or aggressive.

50% drop in shipping activities seen

Major wholesalers and retailers in the Northern Marianas have started downsizing their orders for basic goods and other merchandise due to the significant drop in overall demand. This will translate to a 50-percent reduction in shipping-related activities that is also anticipated to impact other business sectors in the CNMI, according to Alex Sablan, Association of Seaport Tenants and Operators of Saipan president. Sablan said that consumer demand for a wide range of goods and commodities have dropped, forcing wholesalers and retailers to drastically cut the volume of the merchandise they ordered abroad. The lower consumer confidence that currently grips the Northern Marianas resulted from the lower number of visitors on the islands. It was also caused by the residents' anxiety over their employment tenure in light of the recession.

Sept, 15 2002

11 NMC officials terminated

Eleven managers and directors of the Northern Marianas College were terminated yesterday following the implementation of a campus-wide reorganization initiated by newly appointed president Kenneth Wright, PhD. Based on the NMC's "Organization Redesign Plan," which was approved by the NMC Board of Regents during its regular meeting Tuesday, 11 posts have to be removed to effect change and ensure efficiency in the college.

House to discuss NMC reorganization

Some senior employees adversely affected by the Northern Marianas College's reorganization yesterday sought the audience of House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider to request for the House's intervention. After listening to the grievances of the employees who were still reeling from what they viewed as an "abrupt" decision by the college, Hofschneider reportedly decided to call a meeting to give the NMC administration the opportunity to air its side of the story. The meeting is reportedly set for today at 10am at the House Chamber. According to a Saipan legislator, Hofschneider verbally informed House members late yesterday to be present at the meeting.

FAA's grant funds total $104.3M in eight years

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority received a total of $104.3 million in airport improvement projects funds from the Federal Aviation Agency in the last eight fiscal years.

From 1999 to 2007, 49 projects were approved and provided funding by FAA, majority of which were for the Saipan International Airport.

In a report to the CPA board of directors, finance committee chair Barrie C. Toves disclosed that the Saipan airport benefited from 26 projects amounting to $59.7 million. This translates to 57 percent of the total AIP funds awarded to CPA during the period.

Tinian got 14 projects with total AIP funding of $36.7 million—35 percent of the total funds awarded to the agency.

For Rota, nine projects were granted funding assistance of $7.8 million—just 7 percent of the total awards—from 1999 to 2007.

Records obtained by Saipan Tribune show that in FY 1999, AIP funds awarded to CPA amounted to $8.7 million for four projects that included the airport runway construction and acquisition of security equipment.

In FY 2000, two projects were provided $6.5 million in AIP money while $10.5 million was awarded in FY 2001 for eight airport projects on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.

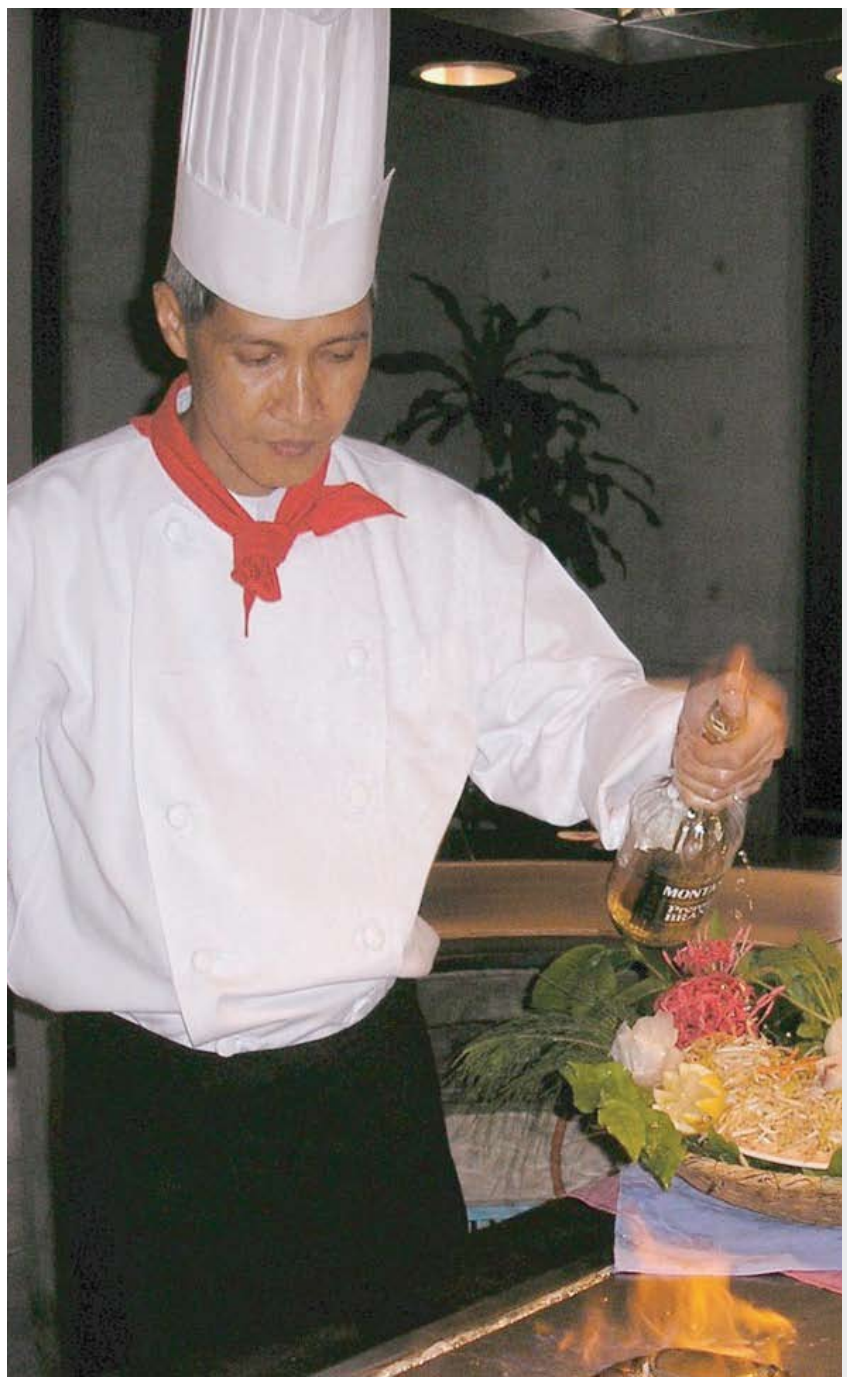
In FY 2002, CPA got $12.2 million for five projects on Saipan, two on Tinian, and one for the Rota airport.

FAA awarded CPA $13.2 million the following fiscal year for 10 priority projects at the three airports.

The amount continued to increase, with FAA approving $16.7 million in AIP money in FY 2004 for eight priority projects.

CPA got the biggest AIP funding in FY 2005, receiving $27.3 million for six projects, including the extension of the Rota runway, Saipan airport's expansion of the terminal building and runway rehabilitation, expansion of the aircraft rescue and firefighting building, as well as the master plan study for the Pagan airstrip. Of the $27.3 million, Tinian airport was provided $14 million for the modification of its ARFF building.

In FY 2006, three projects were granted $7.3 million. In FY 2007, the amount went down to $1.6 million.



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Rota – 6:30AM, Tete'to (First 100 to register get a coupon for a T-shirt!)

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Opinion

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A climatic shift

Even if the United States is gradually losing its status as the world's economic, diplomatic and military superpower, there is one category in which, as of Tuesday, it has emerged as the undisputed No. 1: We are the most environmentally irresponsible nation on Earth.

For the past few years, we've been sharing the title of world's worst climate change offender with China, whose rapid rise in greenhouse gas emissions and refusal to take strong action to curb them made it as big a villain, in the eyes of the rest of the world, as the U.S. That changed at a United Nations climate summit Tuesday when the presidents of the two countries stood up to present their plans to address the problem.

China's Hu Jintao announced concrete steps to reduce his nation's carbon footprint, such as getting 15 percent of its power from non-fossil sources by 2020, planting enough forest to cover an area the size of Norway and limiting the growth of carbon emissions as a percentage of the country's gross domestic product. President Obama, meanwhile, gave a speech that was as packed with high-flown rhetoric as it was devoid of any new proposals. U.N. climate chief Yvo de Boer no doubt echoed the thoughts of many at the summit when he said that, as a result of China's dramatic policy shift, it "could well become the frontrunner in the fight to address climate change. The big question mark is the U.S."

To be more specific, the big question mark is the U.S. Senate. The House last summer passed a sweeping climate change bill that, if enacted, would leave China in the dust. It would cap carbon emissions at 17 percent of 2005 levels by 2020. It would also require the nation to get 20 percent of its power from renewable sources, or from greater energy efficiency, by that year. Yet the bill has stalled in the Senate and, without a lot more effort from Democratic leaders and the Obama administration, is unlikely to come to the floor this year. That will put the U.S. in a woefully weak position in December, when negotiators meet in Copenhagen to hammer out a global climate agreement.

Together, the U.S. and China account for about 40 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. Beijing's plans to link pollution to economic growth are disappointing, because they will allow emissions in the rapidly developing country to keep rising. But its commitment to specific carbon limits still trumps the U.S., which has yet to set a national renewable energy standard, let alone a carbon-cutting goal. In Washington, climate change is testing a democratic political system that has always had trouble making present sacrifices to ward off future threats. For the sake of our global status and the well-being of our children, we must pass that test.

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IT's NO GOOD...HE's ON EVERY CHANNEL....
...and YOU CAN KEEP YOUR CURRENT HEALTH INSURANCE IF YOU LIKE IT....

America by Rails Part 6: Millennium Chicago

Travel notes, live and on virtual time (a social commentary

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Amtrak's *Empire Builder* was appropriately named after the nation that went "Westward ho!" to settle the lands of Oregon (of which Washington was a part before it split to form its own State), and served as a symbol to the "Go West, Young Man, Go West" motto of the great American enterprise. That Empire would lodge its western shores on Subic Bay and its State Department: East on Roxas Boulevard on Manila Bay. Its tentacles would sail the Yantze, navigate the Mekong, and reach the Yalu overlooking Manchuoko.

I traveled the *Empire's* reverse route, literally and metaphorically. Literally, from Oregon to the famed Loop by Lake Michigan this week but metaphorically, from *Pasong Tamo* of Makati to the Alamo of *Texicali* in the last 40-some years. The cavernous Union Station near Wabash along the Chicago river welcomed my arrival to the city this time.

I summer'd in Uptown in '67 and resided in the shadows of Wrigley Park in the '70s. I knew of Alinsky's Stockyards and MLK's Southside while Obama was still sporting island shorts in Oahu. Barrack's acceptance speech at Grant Park was one of the imaginal turning points of the nation from the pit of imperial despair mired in Iraq and Afghanistan to a new verve of plebian hope in domestic health care and collegial foreign policy.

New York may lead the nation's fad and fashion, but it will not do until it plays in Peoria! That is Chicago's proletarian thermometer on practicality and critical mass acceptance, the hundredth monkey principle. It was out of the optimism of Chicago's International Exposition at the turn of the 1900 that coined for the Nazarene's followers the claim for the emergence of a triumphant Christian Century, later blessed with an American definition by Chicago resident and pioneering *Time-Life* magazine publisher Henry R. Luce.

The assault on the two-story worldview of Christianity began with the Copernican paradigm shift that took the Earth out as the center of the universe, and Galileo who had the temerity to suggest that the Earth is not even the center of the solar system. *Homo sapiens* as slightly lower than angels was not too happy with the sudden demotion from the cosmic status weight scale.

Charles Darwin's *The Origin of the Specie* further suggested that the human journey did not come about by providential fiat accompli *in creatio ex nihilo,* but from a slow process of biological evolution and a survival-directed process of genetic selection. In spasms of defensive Aryan superiority, West Africans and brown brother Filipinos were depicted as monkeys in media cartoons and other characterizations.

Clarence Darrow of Chicago, whose office then was at the downtown Chicago (Methodist) Temple, now fronting the Daley Federal Center, defended the case against John Scopes whose sense of pedagogical integrity led him to the teaching of evolutionary theory as a valid scientific hypothesis in the 1920s. The elevation of the paper Pope (the Bible) to replace the Roman Pope in the Protestant Reformation led to a literal interpretation of holy writ and a spirited defense of the creation story as an adequate explanation of human presence in the planet made it illegal to teach otherwise.

That debate is not so much in science as it is in the social overarching context (theology/metaphysics/philosophy). It is the difference between assuming that humans proceeded from creation as an end product, flawed or fallen, but redeemable, or is an organism in the ongoing process of biological and cultural evolution in which s/he can now participate consciously and intentionally.

That is a crucial difference because in the current emotionally charged political "debate" or the current national shouting matches, one side wants to preserve the America that they know—an imagined Golden Age that never was—and want their children to inherit the same America, against those who will undermine the status quo for an indeterminate future, with all its uncertainties, ambiguities, and insecurities. The well-orchestrated Sept. 12 demonstrations in the Capital City, along with Glen Beck's regular tirade against Obama, reflects a national anxiety level that would rather settle with the devil they know than trust the half-black *Saiten* from Chicago who ascended the national stage in the last presidential election.

In my youth, I was taught that "one cannot prepare the future for the children, but the children can be prepared for the future." The majority sentiment of Chicago, and the expressed views of the White House whose current family occupants are claimed as one of the Windy City's own, follow the fluidity of this evolutionary teaching, rather than the determinism of creationism, a teaching suspect to the entrenched few in comfortable pews, and to the fearful lords who reign over political wards and crumbling real estate prerogatives.

In spite of all the claims of corruption in Chicago politics, the city seems well run and functional. Its rapid transit system, with emphasis on "rapid," has always been the yardstick by which other city systems are measured. The Metra Line going to the suburb makes living in the suburbs a reasonable option for those who work in the city, and a convenient means for the outliers to come into the city to imbibe its rich offerings of glocal humanities and metropolitan art.

A most impressive symbol to these is the Millennium Park located in the environs of the Chicago Art Institute. A landscape of gracious space and calming sounds, the Park features an amphitheatre that hold weekly public performances, and amplifies either recorded music, or the symphony in practice, or a choir at rehearsal, during the noon hour. The ambience created for either the strollers or the workers on lunch break bespeaks of a people not groveling for straws to hang on to before a bleak future, but of bright-eyed hopefuls enjoying the day's presence, if not actively charting the course of the next century.

See AMERICA on next page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The one test to get if you're overweight

By DAVID KHORRAM, M.D.
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

David Khorram, MD is the co-founder and medical director of Marianas Eye Institute. He is the author of the book, World Peace, a Blind Wife, and Gecko Tails*, which is available on Amazon.com and at Marianas Eye Institute. Dr. Khorram can reached by email by visiting www.MarianasEye.com, or by phone at 670-235-9090.* *© David Khorram, 2009.*

One of the things that we do in public health is try to identify disease. This is a process we call screening. For example one of the important diseases in the CNMI is diabetes. Because diabetes has many complications, we are interested in catching the disease early, so that we can begin treatment and prevent the complications.

One of the methods we used to screen for diabetes is to check blood sugar. It's a simple test and takes just a few minutes to perform. In fact if you go to the beach pathway on Wednesday evenings (or for that matter come into my office at any time), you can have your blood sugar tested in less than two minutes. But even though it's a simple test, it's not very cost-effective to screen the entire population. It's much more useful and efficient to screen populations that are at high risk. So, who is at high risk? If we know that, then we can focus our screening efforts.

A recent study out of the Netherlands shows that the single most important predictor of diabetes is obesity. If you want to institute a screening program and find a lot of diabetics, then screen those who are overweight. And if you are overweight, your risk for diabetes increases.

Diabetes is a disease that affects small blood vessels throughout the body. As the blood vessels become damaged they are unable to carry oxygen. The tissues and organs which those blood vessels serve then become damaged. In this way diabetes affects the blood vessels in the feet, which results in amputations. It affects the blood vessels in the kidneys, which results in kidney failure and the need for dialysis. It affects the blood vessels in the heart and the brain, which results in heart attacks and strokes at a young age. And diabetes also affects the small blood vessels in the eyes, which can lead to vision loss.

If diabetes is caught early and the blood sugar is controlled these complications can be prevented or minimized. That's why it's important to know whether or not you have diabetes. After all, it doesn't do much good to screen for a disease that you can't do anything about. It's precisely because the complications of diabetes can be prevented that we do everything possible to test for diabetes and find it early. The longer it hangs out in your body, unknown and uncontrolled, the more silent damage it can cause. And that's why if you're overweight (and you know if you are) you should get your blood sugar checked. This study now shows that obesity alone may be the best indicator of undiagnosed diabetes. Get your blood sugar checked. The screening test is easy and at the Walk on Wednesdays, or at Marianas Eye Institute, it's free.

AMERICA

From Page 10

My grandson Sullivan cavorted on the pool of the twin water towers, joining many other toddlers and their parents enjoying the coolness that relieves the feet of the summer heat, where pictures of young faces are shown on square tiles, like pixels on a computerized screen, water spouting out of their mouths like a fountain when they crack a smile. This is neither the America of Rush Limbaugh and his caustic dribbles, nor that of Glen Beck and his toxic rants.

The skyline of Chicago is impressive, streets are clean, the air is clear. Media might be reporting that our town hall meeting protocols have deteriorated into uncivil discourse, but the spirit in Chicago on this trip is exemplified in the big neon sign on the boarding platform of Amtrak: "The future is here." Clearly, people are not hitching their today on the promise of the creation of a perfect tomorrow; they live each day and today in the awareness that tomorrow has already come.

The Burnham Plan of 1909 celebrates a centennial, and offers for a Chicago 2009 "Bold Plans. Big Dreams." Along with this is the regular flea market at the Daley Center where tents are set up for and by ordinary and common small entrepreneurs with homemade crafts and homegrown produce to sell. Big and small, they all fit in Chicago, emerging as everyone's kind of town.

The Narcissism Epidemic

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.

A Chinese business owner told me that she is having a hard time understanding Americans. Stated as such, her enigma was too vague for me to solve. But when she finally dropped her diplomatic circumlocution, her question was, basically, this: Why are Americans, especially young ones, so emotionally driven and so quick to get angry?

I recommended a book to her, one that I recommend to anyone in the CNMI who is trying to bridge the vast (and it is vast) cultural gulf between the west and east Pacific. In fact, I also recommend it to older Americans if they find themselves wondering why there is so much snippy hostility brewing in many workplaces.

The book is *The Narcissism Epidemic: Living in an Age of Entitlement.* The authors are Jean M. Twenge Ph.D., and W. Keith Campbell Ph.D., the publisher is Free Press, and the list price is $26.

The "entitlement" angle isn't some sour-faced slam at the economically disadvantaged who subsist on government programs. It is, instead, an insight into the sassy, self-absorbed middle- and upper-middle class youth, who many people regard as a cult of self-esteem whose members are immersed in chronic preening and attention-seeking.

But I'm not into the inter-generational arguments gig: The only kids I concern myself with are those in our family. So whether America's youth have narcissistic tendencies (a) is not for me to determine, and (b) doesn't have any influence on my life at all one way or the other. So, at a basic, social level, I really don't care. If it's a problem, it's sure not my problem.

Still, on a business level I think this book does introduce some noteworthy issues, which can help with the practical, hands-on duties of management, supervision, and customer service. The topic has come up in my circle of interactions, from managers, to supervisors, to professors.

Also, I'll note that I think that "narcissism" has technical weight in some contexts, but business managers, and myself, are more concerned with the colloquial meaning here.

As for the nasty tempers that are associated with this gig, there is a term, "narcissistic rage," that seems to fit. I don't recall if it's in this book or not. Anyway, when you're dealing with people who know nothing else of the world besides their feelings and subjective opinions, it follows that they can be quite nasty because they take everything personally. Displays of anger and righteous outrage are frowned on in many cultures, which is why I think so many foreign managers are confused by this behavior when they encounter it in nominally "educated" Americans.

And, in venues where humility is considered a virtue, it can be perplexing to encounter people with overly high opinions of themselves.

For the manager, it's a simple gig: Don't hire people like this unless you want to deal with the problems.

But it's harder to pick your customers than it is your workers. If a customer is pitching a narcissistic fit, I doubt you can placate them; trying to satisfy people who relish their own outrage is a hapless endeavor.

Moving from the business context, I think we can wonder how those in the narcissism set could tolerate being married to each other. Then again, maybe they can't. I guess there will be a lot of frustrated and lonely people sitting on the couch watching TV, nursing grievances that nobody appreciates them.

I have worked in places that I consider very narcissistic, but none of these places have any ties or proximity to Saipan. In those venues I learned that such people react well to flattery, and that the best way to troubleshoot personnel problems was to pass the buck so somebody else has to deal with it. In other words, you want to be the nice guy, and have somebody else be the heavy, even if it's all a charade.

What can I do to show 'The Hafa Adai and Tirow Way!'

By ADELEYAH MOJICA
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Editor's Note: Adeleyah Mojica is a student at Marianas High School. The following is her winning essay for the Hafa Adai Tirow Way essay contest, sponsored by the Marianas Tourism Education Council.

We, the people of Saipan can make a difference in the way our society stands as of now; with our character, culture, genuineness, warmth and generosity we can give anyone who comes here the memorable stay they deserve. There are many ways to make someone feel welcome; whether it be a friendly wave or a pleasant smile, everybody is capable of treating others with respect and affability.

One way to make people feel welcome is to be friendly. Even something simple, such as a smile or a warm greeting, can definitely make one feel more open and accepted in a new and different place. Along with friendliness comes hospitality. Hospitality is defined as something given to generous and cordial reception. Inviting someone into your home is a great way to show hospitality. Another way is to offer someone a tour of the island. This gives you a chance to show the island to someone who may have never seen anything of the nature of things that we have here. You have to, of course, be sure that while doing all these things you do it with sincerity. If you are talking to someone, show a sincere interest in what they have to say. If it is a foreigner you are talking to, one way to show how sincere you are is to learn their language so you will be able to really converse and share thoughts and experiences with them.

Some more ways to open up the island to others is to display helpfulness. For example, if someone is new here and needs directions; who better to help them than we, the local people. We can probably answer most of the questions anyone may have about the island and we may even be able to make suggestions; such as to great places to visit or activities to partake in on Saipan. No one knows the enjoyable side of the island better than we do.

Something that is important pertaining to showing the more pleasant sides of Saipan would also be keeping the island clean. Just cleaning up after yourself can be an act that dignifies so many things. It alone can embody a courteous, respectful, aware attitude of someone who cares about their surroundings (including the people who surround them).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Essay winner Adeleyah Mojica reads her winning essay for the Hafa Adai Tirow Way contest at the Garapan Street Market on Sept. 17, 2009.

In addition, one of the greatest ways to open up the island to others is to share the cultures that have been embarked upon us. This incorporates being open and including others in the language, traditions, stories, and local cuisines of the island's native cultures.

Furthermore, the overall best way to show the Hafa Adai and Tirow way spirit is to treat others as you would like for them to treat you. If you find yourself in a new place, think about how you would want for the people there to welcome and accept you. It is extremely important that people remember to treat each other with equality and respect.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼77°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼77°

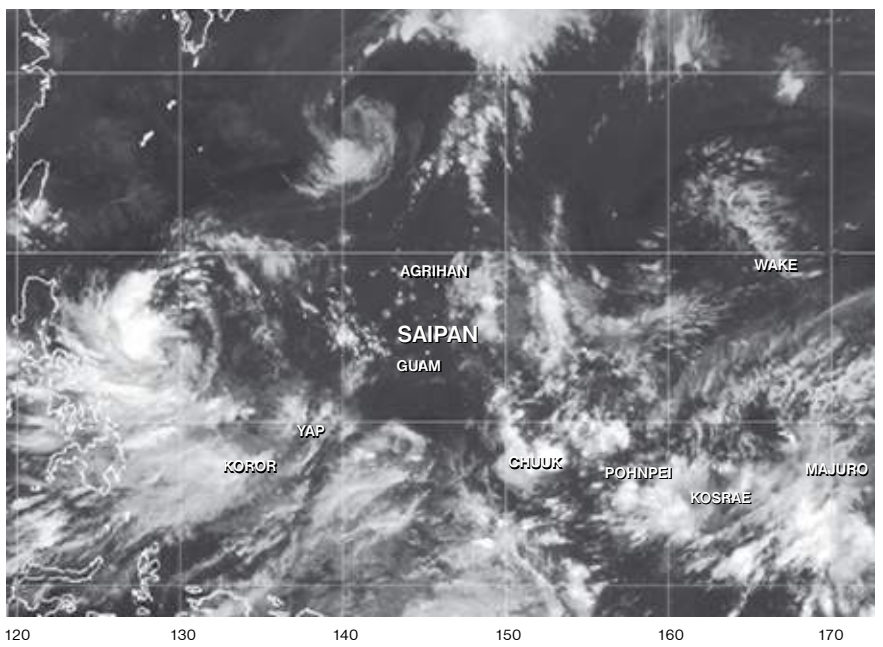
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲85	▼77
Palau	Rain	▲85	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲85	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲84	▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Rain	▲61	▼53
Beijing	Cloudy	▲75	▼62
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲90	▼79
Honolulu	Partly Sunny	▲85	▼77
London	Sunny	▲70	▼52
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲90	▼64
Manila	Rain	▲85	▼76
Melbourne	Rain	▲66	▼43
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲89	▼79
New York	Sunny	▲71	▼51
Osaka	Partly Sunny	▲78	▼60
Paris	Partly Sunny	▲68	▼54
Pusan	Cloudy	▲83	▼64
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲80	▼60
Salem	Sunny	▲80	▼47
San Francisco	Sunny	▲79	▼57
Seoul	Cloudy	▲79	▼58
Tokyo	Sunny	▲77	▼63
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼54

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends eastward from the northern Philippines to a circulation north of Koror at 14N133E then turns southeastward through another circulation north of Kosrae at 6N163E to end at EQ171E. Low-level convergence south of the monsoon trough is combining with upper-level divergence to produce scattered showers and a few thunderstorms west of Koror between 4N and 12N from 130E to 133E west of Yap between 5N and 10N from 138E to 144E in the vicinity of the monsoon trough over Chuuk between 6N and 9N from 150E to 154E including Pohnpei between 3N and 8N from 157E to 163E and south of Kwajalein and west of Majuro between the equator and 8N from 164E to 173E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms east of the Marianas between 15N and 19N from 148E to 150E and within 80 miles of a line from 18N152E to 10N154E to 8N157E. Scattered trade-wind showers and isolated thunderstorms are also located over the Marshall Islands between 8N and 16N from 170E to 180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
6:13 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
1:49 PM Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
6:46 PM Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet
11:04 PM Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:11 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Monday	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Tuesday	6:07 AM	6:08 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:46 AM	11:07 PM
Saturday	12:37 AM	
Sunday	1:24 PM	12:00 AM
Monday	2:08 PM	12:52 AM
Tuesday	2:48 PM	1:42 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:05am	8:40am	Daily
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	Daily via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78	9:00am	11:40am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:35pm	1:40am+1	Daily via NGO
NW100	8:45pm	1:20am+1	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW77	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Sudden interest

I want to thank Rep. Ralph DLG. Torres for conducting a survey on the conditions at CHC. As chairman of the powerful Committee on Health, Education, and Welfare since his inauguration in Jan. 10, 2007, Rep. Torres has the authority to ascertain the conditions at CHC. After reading the survey results in the news, one thing immediately came to mind: the perennial funding problem and sudden interest of Rep. Torres. This leads me to pose the following questions to Rep. Torres.

1. As a chairman of the Health, Education, and Welfare Committee, what are you going to do about the problem areas discovered by the survey?

2. Now that the House of Representatives has pretty much finished its FY 2010 budget bill, what additional monies have you pumped into the CHC budget to ensure that more doctors, nurses and other allied health specialties can be recruited? More medical supplies and needed equipments can be purchased?

3. Why is it that approval of the FY 2010 budget from the House of Representatives preceded the oversight hearing on CHC? Is it not in reverse order? Doesn't logic dictate that you conduct an oversight first to ascertain the "problem" with certain precision then follow through with a plan of action?

4. Why did you take a sudden interest in CHC's welfare when your *term as a legislator is expiring in 46 days*? Again, logic dictates, and with a little bit of common sense on your part, that what you should have done immediately after you inauguration on Jan. 10, 2007, was to: (a) meet with Secretary Kevin Villagomez to give you an overview of conditions at CHC; (b) meet with Secretary Villagomez's management team (both administrative and medical care) to acquaint yourself with the conditions in both management and medical care services at CHC; (c) inquire about the types of funding support that CHC is getting or not getting, patient debts, indigent program, community-based medical services, medical referral, etc. Don't forget that you were a rookie legislator on Jan. 10, 2007, and you needed all the information about CHC to educate yourself about its operations and the challenges faced by the hospital.

Rep. Torres, I must level with you. First, you do not and never have a sincere and genuine interest in the welfare and conditions at CHC. It took you two years and a desire to become a senator to appear interested in the plight of CHC and its employees. What do you wish to accomplish from this staged drama? A Johnny-come-lately champion of the sick and disabled? We, the public, wanted results in the last two years, not a drama staged 46 days before Election Day.

Secondly, you are known among some legislators that you have a knack for traveling. Your fellow legislators said it, I didn't. Now, this explains why you did not have time in two years to know what was and is going on at CHC, much less did something about the problems rediscovered by you survey. What about Education? Community-based welfare programs? And now you want us, the public, to elevate you to a Senate seat for four years? Heaven forbid!

Marvin Pangelinan
Kagman 3, Saipan

Thank you

I wanted to express my sincerest gratitude and salute to my fellow comrades of the Dandan Neighborhood Watch Action Team. The team spirit was the driving force behind our Dandan Children's Park cleanup campaign that has started since Aug. 8, 2009. Thus far, we have achieved our goal as majority of the heavy spots in the property are now safe and clean for anyone to make the use of the park. Our team of volunteers in this fine community spent countless hours and time under the hot sun clearing the overgrown bushes in the park. I would like to give special credit and recognize these fine individuals who provided their valuable time, commitment and helping hands in cleaning up the park for the betterment of our community. From the bottom of my heart, kudos to my fellow comrades:

Mr. Nunu Sanchez
Mr. Ben Matagolai
John & JR Leon Guerrero
Jun Boom Camacho
Joe DeLeon Guerrero (Rai)
Richard and Jude Helgen
Mr. & Mrs. Dan & Luz Domingo
Mitch Aaron
Vicky Espayos
Ray Palacios
Joe Palacios
Lilly Kosam
Mr. & Mrs. Buenaventura

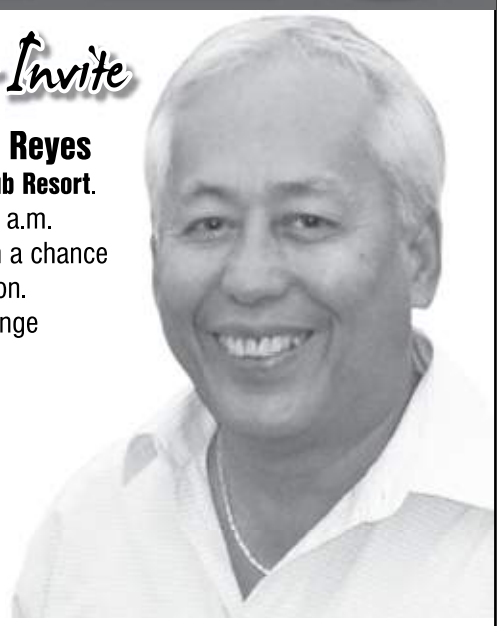
A special mention to the contribution of Mr. Nunu Sanchez for the chaser and beer at his house, Mr. Joe and Ray Palacios for the pugua, ice, beer, and soft drinks brought over to the park, and the generosity of Judge and Mrs. Ken Govendo for providing a case of water, one quart of 2 cycle oil and eight gallons of gas to be used for this project.

I invite everyone in Dandan community to come down and help out. For more information, you can call me at 483-0764.

Frank B. Camacho
Team Captain, NW Dandan

FOR SENATOR WHY NOT!
PETE P. REYES

Golf Tourney Fundraiser Invite



Enjoy a Round of Golf with **Senator Pete P. Reyes** on **September 26, 2009** at **Marianas Country Club Resort**.
Show Time: 09:00 a.m. Shotgun start at 10:00 a.m.
$100.00 a ticket for Double Peoria Format with a chance to win a $5,000.00 on a Hole-in-One Competition.
Other optional competitions include Skill Challenge and Closest-to-the-Pin.

Tickets are available at the door.

Legislative accountability for public funds is something Senator Reyes takes seriously. Every taxpayer funds should be used to improve the overall quality of life for the people of the CNMI, and Senator Reyes will fight to see that it does. In all legislation dealing with the use of taxpayer money, Senator Reyes makes certain that all are subject to public funds accountability.

Senator Reyes not only advocates for, but practices complete fiscal accountability and the proper use of public funds. In addition to itemizing the expenditure of his member's account, Senator Reyes accounts for his daily time and attendance by use of a time clock and for the use of his government vehicle in a trip log form. He is a proven leader by example!

On November 7th, vote for public funds accountability, vote for Senator Pete P. Reyes.
Why Not!

8 REYES, Pete Pangelinan
(Republican)

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Senator Pete P. Reyes

Ironic

Isn't it ironic that Sen. Pete P. Reyes would author Senate Legislative Initiative SLI 16-003 aimed at instituting term limits for Senate and House of Representative members. It's a great read if you're in need of a good laugh. Here's how to get to the SLI. Go to the website http://cnmileg.gov.mp/, then click "16th CNMI Legislature," click "16th Senate," click "16th Senate Legislations," then click "Senate Legislative Initiatives." When you get to the page listing all the SLIs, click "STATUS" on SLI 16-003, titled "Limit terms of Senate/House members." When the page opens up, click "SLI16-003" on the upper right side, which appears in red font and underlined, and voila!, the SLI should appear in a PDF document.

For those without computer or online access, I will directly quote an excerpt from SLI 16-003, which again I remind you is authored by Sen. Reyes:

"Section 1. Findings. The Legislature finds that a legislature peopled by ordinary citizens and not career politicians is the key to a more democratic and dynamic legislature. By limiting the number of terms a member may serve, the people of the commonwealth are assured that people with fresh ideas and strong resolve can and will be elected to effectuate the will of the people that they serve."

Ironic? Career politician resonates in my mind, and if you were to look up career politician in the CNMI encyclopedia of legislators, Pete P. Reyes' photo will undoubtedly appear.

I find this SLI authored by Sen. Reyes ironic to say the least, but also noble in the sense that maybe he is finally awake and now gets it. Which leads to the question: Why is Sen. Pete P. Reyes seeking re-election for his Senate seat? Is he playing games with us? Sen. Pete P. Reyes' tenure in the Senate goes back to the 11th Legislature—that's six consecutive terms if you include the current Legislature (16th), at four years per term, for a total of 24 years in the Senate. It goes back farther, as Sen. Reyes also served many terms as a member of the House of Representatives before his Senate career. So tell me, does Sen. Pete P. Reyes qualify as a career politician given his total years in both the House and the Senate? Hell, yes! Then why doesn't he just do the noble thing and step down now? Senator Reyes, I urge you to step down now and give the upcoming young and eager generation, with fresh ideas and strong resolve, the opportunity to effectuate the will of the people as you've proclaimed in the SLI you authored. It's the right thing to do. Buy a sailboat and sail off into the sunset…you deserve it.

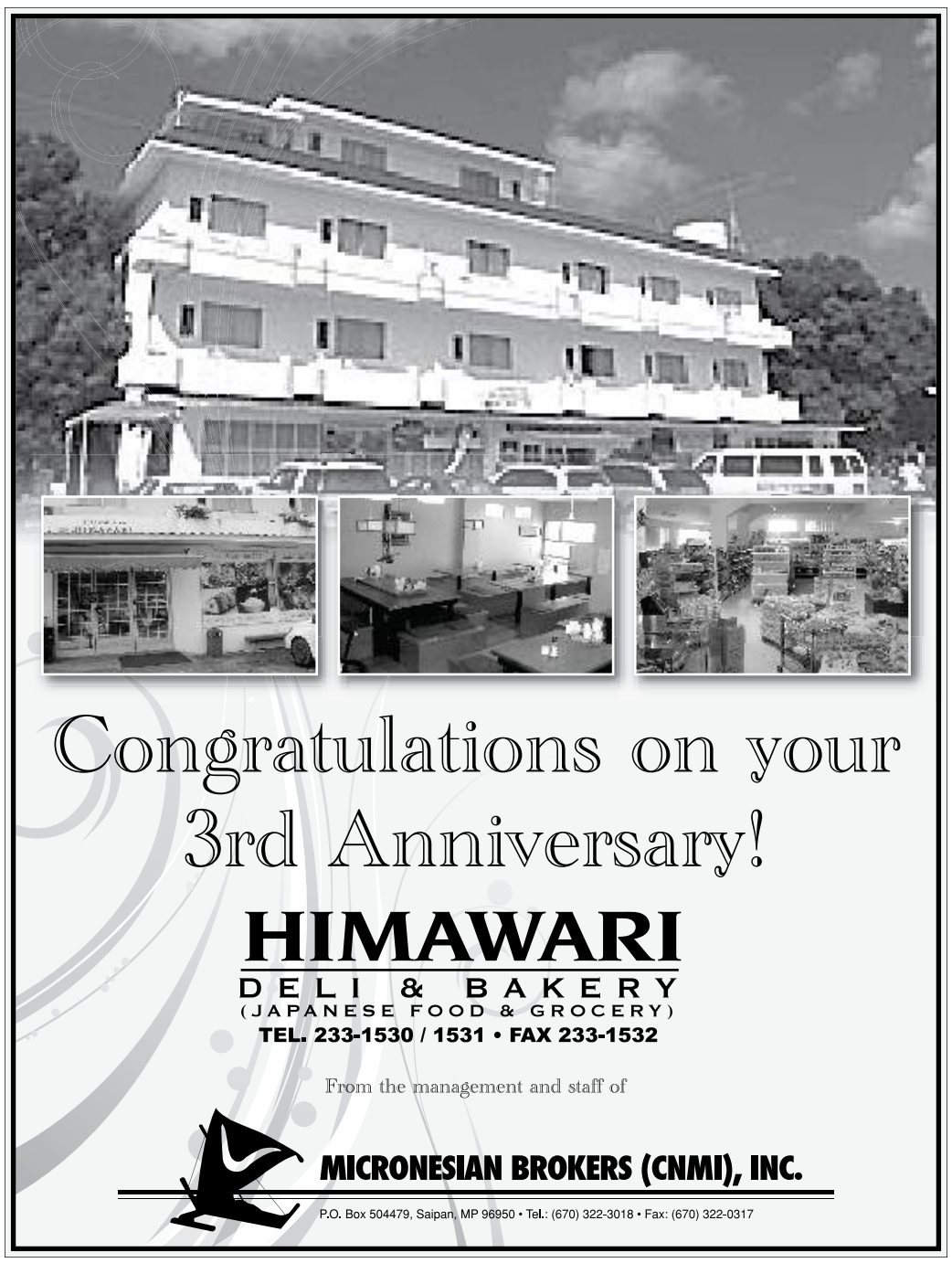
Philip Leyland
Navy Hill, Saipan

Condolences

Our sincere condolences to Ben Romolor's wife and kids. I'm lost for words, we share your pain and sorrow and may God bless us and guide us in celebrating Ben's passing. Ben was a good brother, a great husband and fantastic father. As a church parishioner, Ben was devoted to his church. I used to help him clean the former Garapan church (what is now Kristo Rai Church) every Saturday of every year but Kristo Rai came along and Ben moved on to other things in life. Ben was my role model. He was a hard working firefighter, he was an angel, one of a kind, very kind and considerate.

This life as we know it will become something else and when we cross over, we will suddenly see all the angel who held us and helped us, they will be cheering at the finish line and filling us with love.

Jack and June Romolor
via e-mail



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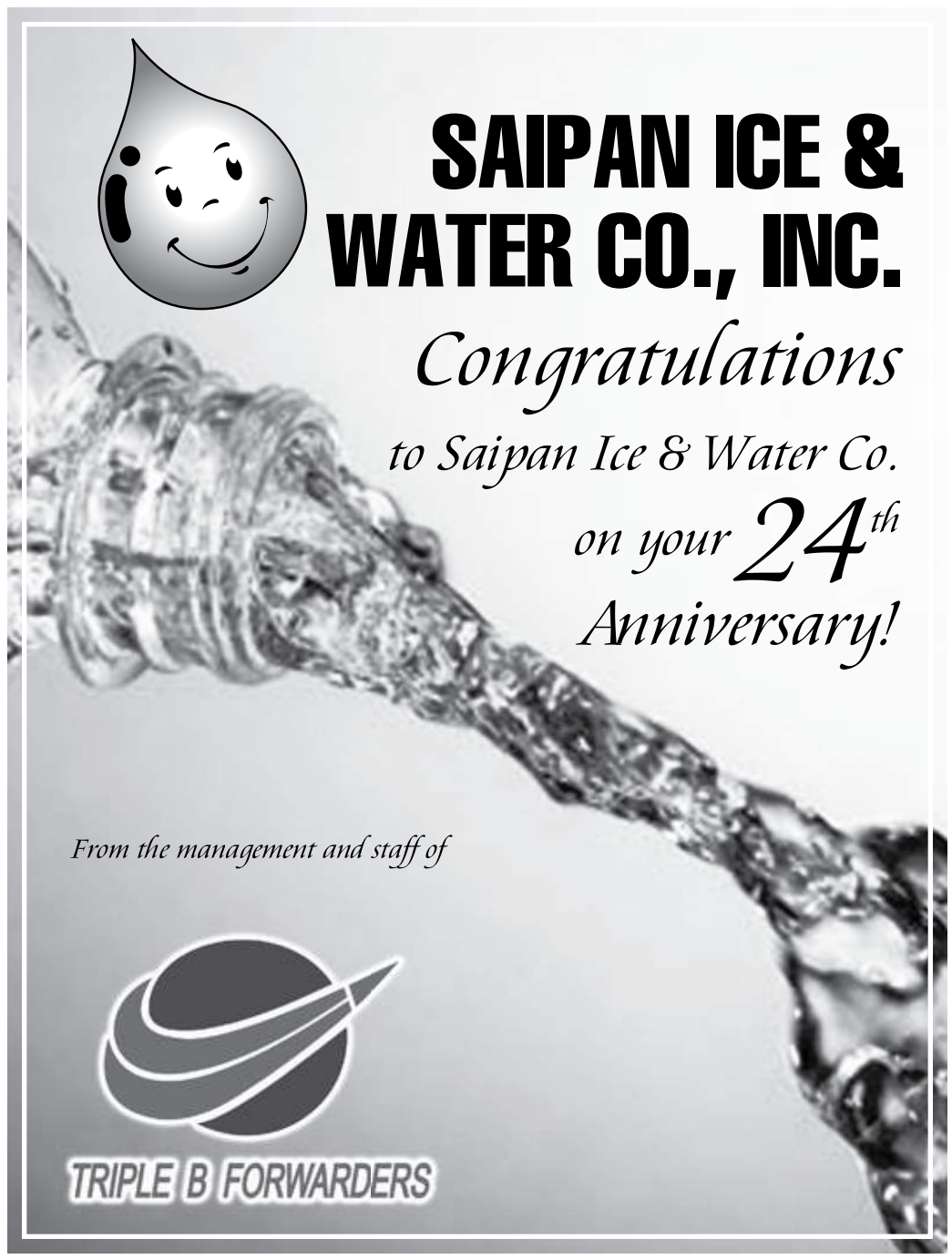

SAIPAN ICE & WATER CO., INC.
Congratulations
to Saipan Ice & Water Co.
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From the management and staff of

TRIPLE B FORWARDERS

Ex-UMDA director Pfaff pleads guilty

Robert Pfaff, former director and head of the audit committee of United Micronesia Development Association on Saipan, pleaded guilty to tax evasion in Federal Court in New York yesterday, admitting to charges arising out of the misuse of UMDA accounts and assets, including the payment of millions of dollars of unreported side fees to former officers and directors of the company.

Pfaff will be sentenced at a date to be determined by the court.

As part of the conspiracy described in the criminal indictment, Pfaff and his co-conspirators were alleged to have defrauded UMDA of the "honest services" of former officers and directors, including former UMDA president Michael Grandinetti (who pleaded guilty in January 2007 to making false statements to federal prosecutors regarding the secret side payments), Peter Sinclair, and Joseph Waechter.

Earlier this year Pfaff, a former executive of KPMG LLP, received 97 months in prison and was fined $3 million by the same court in U.S. v. Stein—a case billed as the largest criminal tax fraud prosecution in the history of the United States. Judge Lewis Kaplan said that Pfaff's crimes in that case were "so raw, so brazen, so outrageous" that they clearly "passed the line" into criminality.

Pfaff is also one of the defendants in a pending civil suit brought by UMDA in Superior Court of the of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to recover millions of dollars for harm done to the company over a 10-year period ending in 2006 when Pfaff was a director and shareholder in the company. The trial date for this case, which was filed in April 2007, has not yet been scheduled.

Jose Lifoifoi, chairman of the UMDA board, said: "We're pleased that Mr. Pfaff has taken responsibility for certain criminal actions that cost our shareholders millions of dollars. We hope that he will also now be truthful in the case in Saipan where we are trying to recover millions in assets and opportunities that Pfaff and his co-defendants stole from UMDA. It's time for Pfaff and his cronies to stop hiding behind their shell companies and come clean with the people of Micronesia."

Robert J. O'Connor, an attorney for UMDA, added, "It's been challenging for us to follow the money that Mr. Pfaff and his colleagues funneled from UMDA—these individuals are masters at creating shell companies and hiding their ill-gotten gains from view. But we have made great progress in uncovering the location of these hidden funds over the past two years and Mr. Pfaff's guilty plea offers the hope that he will be more forthcoming in the context of the Saipan litigation, as we try to restore millions of dollars that rightfully belong to UMDA shareholders."

UMDA was founded in 1966 in Saipan and owns the Palms Resort Saipan. UMDA's shareholders include the government or governmental entities of the CNMI, Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and thousands of individual Micronesians and their families. ***(PRNewswire/UMDA)***

Congratulations to Himawari on your 3rd Anniversary!

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WATERCLOSET $86 & UP SINK $33 & UP
NEW ARRIVAL OF CERAMIC TILES, 12"*12" $0.79/pc • 8"*12" $0.52/pc

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DELIVERY CHARGE TO TINIAN-$3.00/BAG
HOLLOW BLOCKS (CMU) 4"-$0.55/pc • 6"-$0.65/pc • 8"-$0.75/pc
REBAR-$778.00/SHORT TON
GALVALUME ROOF TIN G26 FROM KOREA, BETTER QUALITY & RUST RESISTANCE
25%OFF FOR 2X8 UTILITY LUMBER REGULAR & TREATED
40%OFF FOR OVERSIZED AND DAMAGED MAHOGANY LUMBER

U.S. LUMBER
2X4X20 REGULAR: $6.50
2X4X20 TREATED: $11.30

UTILITY LUMBER REGULAR	UTILITY LUMBER TREATED
2X4X12 - $3.40	2X4X12 - $3.40
2X4X14 - $3.90	2X4X14 - $3.90
2X4X16 - $4.50	2X4X16 - $7.70
2X4X18 - $5.00	2X4X18 - $8.80
2X4X20 - $6.10	2X4X20 - $9.60
2X6X12 - $6.70	2X6X12 - $10.00
2X6X14 - $7.60	2X6X14 - $11.00
2X6X16 - $8.90	2X6X16 - $13.00
2X6X18 - $9.90	2X6X18 - $14.50
2X6X20 - $10.90	2X6X20 - $10.90

5/8" FLYFORM:	$24.00/PC
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WIRE MESH 7'*50':	$69.30
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MICROL TOYOTA SPECIALS OF THE WEEK

2000 NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 4DR
Stock: U07-034T • License: ACT-812
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Price: $10,999
Reduced Price $6,999

USED CARS

STOCK	YEAR	MODEL	TRANS.	MILEAGE	COLOR	LICENSE #	PRICE	REDUCED PRICE
TOYOTA SEDANS								
R08-019F	2005	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	41092	WHITE	ACD-346	~~10,799~~	8,599
R09-010F	2006	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	59360	SILVER	ADO-711	~~11,999~~	9,999
N/A	2007	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	20421	WHITE	ADW-292	12,399	
N/A	2007	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	18092	RED	ACH-404	12,399	
N/A	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	29173	WHITE	ACD-727	11,499	
N/A	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	26200	WHITE	ACD-687	11,499	
N/A	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	25037	BLUE	ACG-450	11,499	
N/A	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	34714	WHITE	ACF-138	10,999	
N/A	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	55010	WHITE	ACE-246	10,999	
GM CARS								
R07-034F	2005	OPTRA 4DR.	AUTO	14592	SILVER	ACD-020	~~10,999~~	7,499
OTHER CARS & TRUCKS								
U09-045T	2003	VOLKSWAGEN NEW BEETLE 2DR	AUTO	48440	GREEN	ABX-844	~~6,999~~	5,999
GM VAN								
N/A	2007	CHEVY EXPRESS VAN 15-PAX	AUTO	55365	WHITE	BUS-1223	~~18,399~~	$17,499

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Corner Beach Road and Chalan Mnsr. Guerrero in San Jose
Monday 8:00am to 5:00pm | Tuesday to Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm | Saturday & Sunday Closed
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Congratulations

on your 24th Anniversary!

Cheers to your 24 years of excellent service! Keep the spirit high for more years ahead.

Tan Siu Lin Foundation

Tan Holdings

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2 DPS officials deny they owe the US gov't money

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Public Safety officials Aniceto and Ambrosio Ogumoro have asked the federal court for a hearing regarding the U.S. government's request to take possession or control of their money or property.

In a form filed in court, DPS deputy commissioner Aniceto Ogumoro and DPS range master Ambrosio Ogumoro placed a check mark on the statement that they do not owe the U.S. government money as it says they do.

The Ogumoro brothers also indicated that the property the U.S. government is taking is exempt.

The federal court recently directed DPS and the Edward Manibusan law firm to withhold the salary, money or property of Aniceto and Ambrosio Ogumoro in order to pay a court judgment now amounting to $3.9 million for an oil spill incident.

The U.S. District Court for the NMI's clerk of court issued a writ of continuing garnishment to DPS and the Manibusan law firm, the former counsel for the estate of Soledad T. Ogumoro.

The clerk of court issued the writ after U.S. District Court for the NMI Judge Alex Munson granted the U.S. government's application for the writ.

A writ of garnishment is a legal process where the court orders the garnishee to hold money or property owed within 10 days after the writ is served.

Garnishee refers to a person, entity or corporation in possession of money or property of a defendant or judgment debtor.

Early this month, Manibusan told the federal court that he does not have in possession or control of money or property belonging to the Ogumoro brothers because he does not represent the estate of Soledad T. Ogumoro anymore.

Manibusan disclosed that he withdrew as counsel for the estate administrator in the probate proceedings of the Soledad Ogumoro estate on July 27, 2007.

The former judge said that lawyer Reynaldo Yana replaced him as counsel for the estate administrator.

Science lecture at AMP

Physics professor John Hait will be conducting a science lecture called "Darwin's Sex Life: The Physics Behind Evolution" on Friday, Sept. 25, 2009, at the American Memorial Park, 7pm. Tuition is $10 at the door. For more information, see www.EinsteinCode.info. ***(PR)***

ANGELO!
O'Connor Villagomez #4 DEMOCRAT
MAYOR
www.AngeloVillagomez.com

Weekend Events

Angelo for Mayor Weenie Roast

What: Angelo for Mayor Weenie Roast
Where: 13 Fishermen Memorial
When: Saturday, September 26. 12:00 – 5:00 PM
Why: To elect Angelo for Mayor for a cleaner, safer Saipan
Cost: The suggested donation is $5 and includes (1) hot dog and drink

Angelo for Mayor 5K Family Fun Walk and Run

What: Angelo for Mayor 5K Family Fun Walk and Run
Where: Start and Finish at 13 Fishermen Memorial
When: Saturday, September 26. Registration begins at 6:00 AM, start time at 7:00 AM
Why: To elect Angelo for Mayor for a cleaner, safer Saipan
Cost: The suggested donation is $15. All race participants will receive an Angelo for Mayor campaign t-shirt

Platform:

Municipal Services
Secondary roads in need of maintenance have to be paved, especially the roads leading down to Laolao Bay and Obyan Beach. To combat the stray dog and dead dog issue, an humane animal shelter must be built and a feral animal control program implemented.

Community Programs
Social development is dependent on community programs. Church groups work with young adults on literacy; sports programs help keep us fit; 4H Club and NMC-CREES helps keep agriculture and aquaculture improving. An events calendar will promote these activities that benefit both the local community and tourism.

Destination Enhancement
We deserve clean and safe villages and our tourists expect well-maintained tourist sites. Volunteers have cleaned up our beaches and streets and the next step is to develop a comprehensive solid waste management plan to reduce litter and illegal dumping.

Honest and Open Government
The goal of the Democratic Party is to restore accountability, honesty, accessibility and openness at all levels of government. To do so, we will create and enforce rules that demand the highest ethics from every public servant and open the books to scrutinize how your tax dollars are being spent.

Angelo for Mayor

Another $1.4 million for CNMI

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Northern Mariana Islands has been awarded another $1,374,719 of Recovery Act funding. U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) made the announcement of the money yesterday.

"[This] award is for the Community Development Block Grant Program. This is an annual formula-funded grant. But Congress put an additional $1 billion into the program through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act," said Sablan. "Effectively, the Commonwealth is getting an extra year's worth of CDBG funding."

The Community Development Block Grant may be used for a wide variety of specific purposes, but is primarily intended to expand economic opportunities for low to moderate income persons.

Many communities use CDBG money to fund local organizations that provide public services, to renovate schools, or to help homeowners rehabilitate their property.

Because Recovery Act monies are ultimately supposed to spur economic activity and create or protect jobs, this grant comes with a requirement not found in normal CDBG awards. The Northern Mariana Islands will be required to give priority to prudent and responsible projects for which contracts can be let through a bidding process within 120 days of the grant agreement.

In a letter to CDBG recipients of Recovery Act funds, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan wrote, "In accepting these funds, it is imperative that you be good stewards of these precious taxpayer dollars by focusing your efforts on the Recovery Act goals of investing in infrastructure that will create or sustain jobs in the near-term and generate maximum economic benefits in the long-term." ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to Kenneth Taitingfong! Have a great one. Wishing you all the best! Enjoy your very special day and may you have many more wonderful birthdays to come. God bless you and we love you! Greetings come from families and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Newborn Hearing Screening
Did you know that... Every baby born in the CNMI receives a hearing screening before leaving the hospital?
Ask if your baby passed the test. Babies learn to talk from what they hear...if your baby needs follow up, schedule your appointment right away.
Follow-up testing is FREE!
Call 236-8709
Printing funded by the Cooperative Agreement for Early Hearing detection and Intervention (EHDI) Tracking, Surveillance, and Integration.
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
HEALTH AND WELL BEING

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
HEALTH AND WELL BEING
How is your baby growing?
If your child displays any of the following signs of possible developmental delay, talk to your doctor, nurse, or other health care provider about it:
Developmental Health Watch
13 to 18 Months
Cannot walk by 18 months
By 15 months, does not seem to know the function of common household objects (brush, telephone, bell, fork, spoon)
Cannot take off clothing
Cannot build a tower of 3 blocks
Cannot scribble
Cannot kick a ball forward
Cannot walk upstairs
Cannot say at least 6 words
Experiences a dramatic loss of skills he or she once had
Learn the Signs. Act Early.
You may also contact the Children's Developmental Assistance Center (C*DAC) at
664-4830
for a FREE developmental screening!
Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early.
Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.
Big Steps for Little Feet

Prevent Childhood Obesity
Avoid common food and eating behavior traps
Don't reward kids with sweets & treats
Reward your kids with fun activities
Don't force your kids to eat everything on their plate
Give them smaller portion size
Don't eliminate all your kids favorite snacks
They'll find ways to snack outside your home
Don't give in to picky eaters
Present the food at every meal until they try it
Don't allow your kids to eat in front of the TV
Set an example, eat together as a family
Remember, you CAN prevent diabetes.
To learn more, contact the Division of Public Health Diabetes Program at 664-4030/1 or CNMI Tobacco Control Program at 323-6584
Community Guidance Center
DPH

Advertising Feature

SAIPAN ICE & WATER CO.

25 years of providing safe, clean, and pure drinking water

Businessman Anthony Pellegrino established Saipan Ice & Water Co. in 1984 with one thing in mind—provide safe, clean, and pure drinking water to the residents of the former capital of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Now 25 years and millions of gallons of water later, the company he established on the remnants of run-down ice-making factory is the undisputed No. 1 water company on Saipan.

Pellegrino said what made Saipan Ice & Water the leader in its field is due primarily to the dedication and hard work of its employees, his investment in equipment, as well as the company's longstanding philosophy of providing only the best products to its customers.

ON THE NET
Tel: 322-9848, 322-6130

"Saipan Ice is the No. 1 seller because of our professional delivery staff, the modern equipment with which we process or water and ice, the in-house chemist who daily checks the water—we are the only one to have an in-house chemist—and because we strive to produce water and ice that we feel is clean and safe to drink," he said.

With the recent proliferation of water companies on Saipan, Saipan Ice & Water Co. prides itself with a full-time chemist on its staff.

Pellegrino said the company's chemist ensures that Saipan Ice & Water Co. can take all the proper tests as often as necessary to ensure the safety and great taste of its products.

Saipan Ice & Water Co. backs up its own tests with samples sent to Montgomery Watson Laboratories so that its water quality is independently verified.

It also publishes a yearly Consumer Confidence Report to inform the public of the source and quality of its water.

Saipan Ice & Water Co. is also the only water company on Saipan that opens its facility to tours on a regular basis.

"Just give us a call and we will be happy to show you just how we purify water," said Pellegrino.

MARK RABAGO
Businessman Anthony Pellegrino displays the vision the drives the daily operation of Saipan Ice and Water Co.

Saipan Ice & Water Co. started in 1984 with one purifier and a manual filling unit. Today, the company's facility in Lower Base encompasses two buildings that house three state-of-the art reverse osmosis units and a 375-bottle-per-hour automatic bottler.

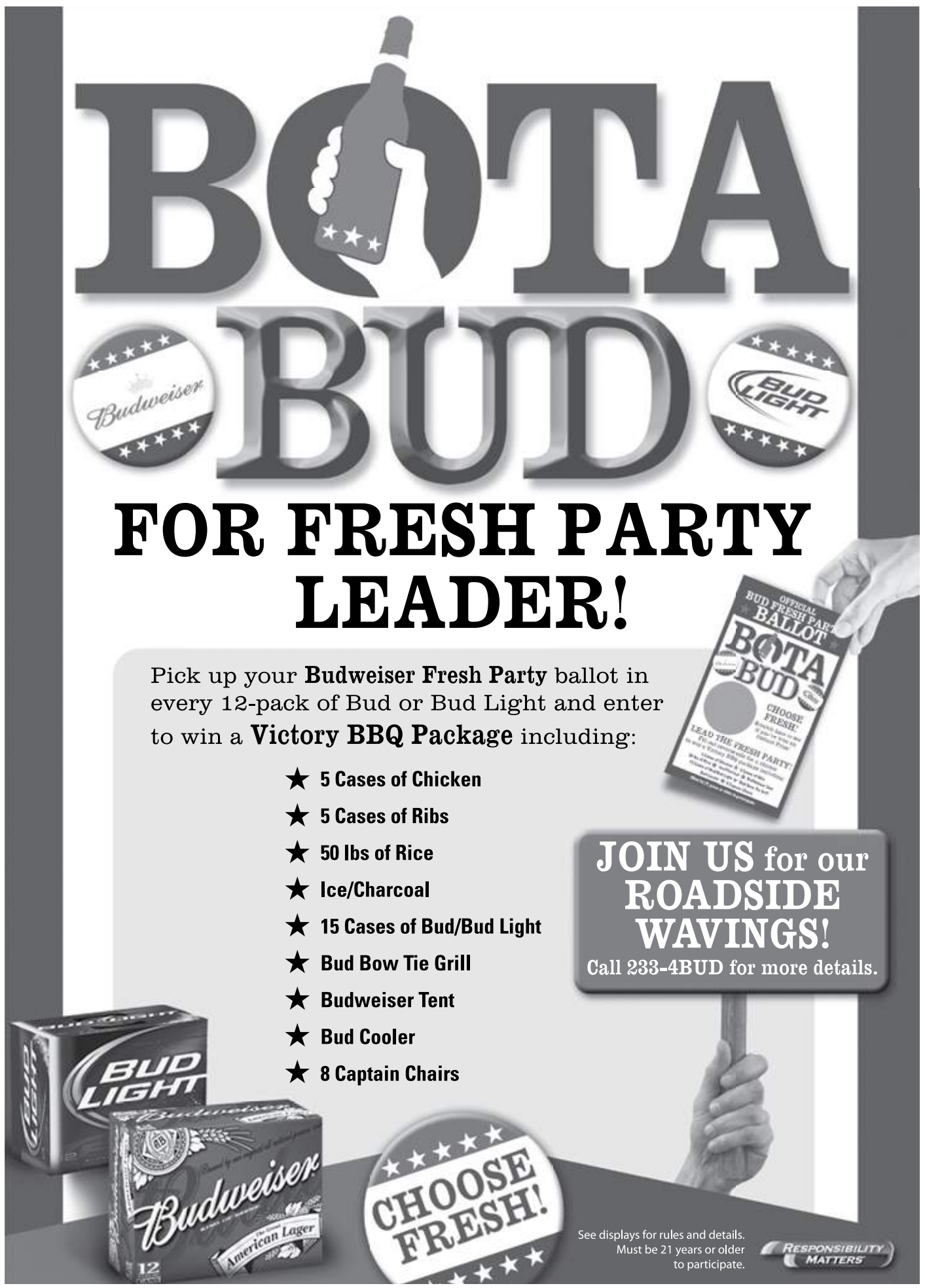
Technicians and delivery personnel staff the facility and operate the company's fleet of trucks, bringing water to over 4,000 homes and businesses.

With its in-house lab and stringent standards, Pellgrino said the company is dedicated to providing the CNMI with the purest water.

Aside from delivering the now ubiquitous 5-gallon bottles of drinking water, which the company makes and sells to competitors, Saipan Ice & Water Co. also sells its Sparkle Clean water brand in many different sizes in stores all over Saipan.

Saipan Ice & Water Co. also deliver water in bulk to many of the island's hotels, restaurants, and other businesses. It also offers private label water bottles that are perfect for organizations and businesses that want to sell their own brand of water products.

For orders and deliveries, call 322-9848 or 322-6130. ***(Saipan Tribune)***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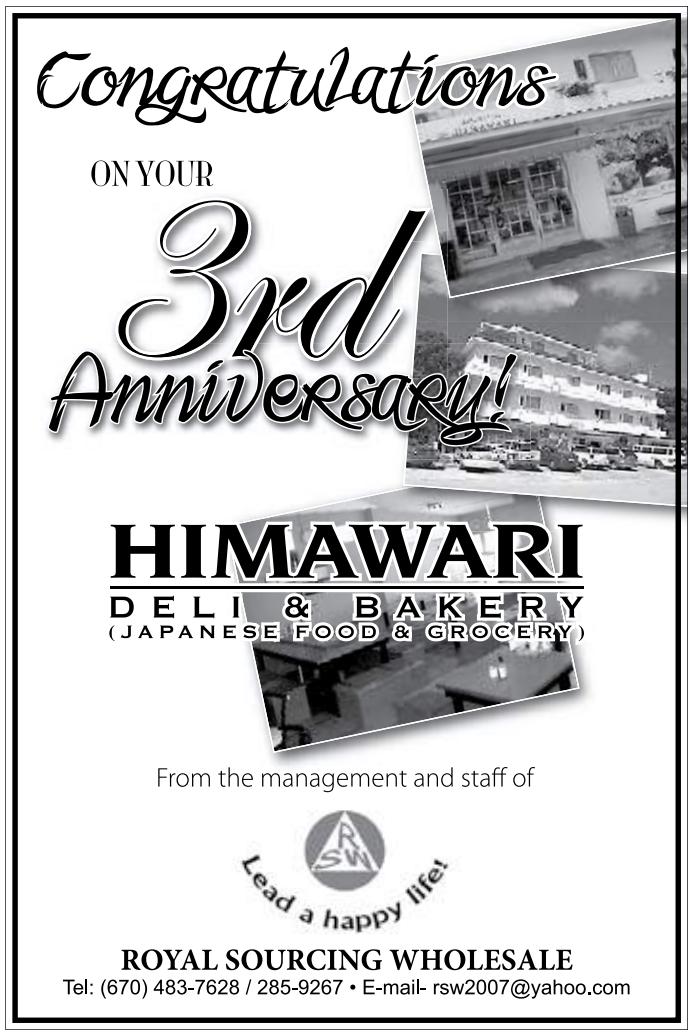

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Boat schedule for Chief Aghurubw rites

The Chief Aghurubw Foundation once again invites the public to Managaha for the annual Chief Aghurubw Commemoration ceremony, to be followed by lunch. Scheduled boat trips from Smiling Cove Marina on the Jambolaya: departing 8am, 9:40am, 11:30am; returning 12:55pm, 3:00pm and 3:55pm.

Additionally, at the Submarine Dock in Lower Base behind the former CUC location: departing 8am and returning 1pm. As always, attendees are asked to be at dock 20 minutes prior to scheduled departure. For any questions, you may contact 285-3282 or 287-5422. ***(PR)***

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The Family Violence Task Force and NMI Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is inviting the public to the 2009 Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation signing on Sept. 29, 10am, at the Governor's Conference Room on Capitol Hill.

This year's theme is *Embracing Hope: Healing Generations, One Survivor at a Time.*

Other activities in October are:

- Oct. 4: Day of Prayer. Catholic Mass at 9am, San Jose Church
- Oct. 9: Candlelight Vigil and Men's Walk
- Oct. 14: Walk beginning at Oleai Beach Pavillion
- Oct 17, 24, and 31: Wise Women Village Project Outreach
- Every Thursday: Street Market ***(PR)***

USS Frank Cable arrives today

The USS Frank Cable, a 649-foot submarine tender homeported in Guam, will arrive this afternoon for a weekend visit to Saipan. Although the ship has a full crew of approximately 1,300, there will be only a partial complement on this voyage—perhaps 800 officers and crew. The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be represented at the arrival briefing, where they will distribute "welcome brochures" that list Chamber member companies who offer discounts to visiting military personnel. The ship is scheduled to depart Monday. ***(SCC)***

Saipan mayoral bets at Chamber meeting

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have it next general membership meeting on Oct. 7 at Pacific Islands Club—Charley's Cabaret. The group has invited all of the Saipan mayoral candidates to join Chamber members at this meeting and will provide them an opportunity to address members. The Chamber will be hosting senatorial and gubernatorial debates in October, but no mayoral debates.

The Saipan mayoral candidates are Roman C. Benavente, Antonio M. Camacho, Juan S. Demapan, Donald Glenn Flores, Jose DLG. Sanchez, Candido B. Taman, Lino S. Tenorio, Marian DLG. Tudela, and Angelo O. Villagomez.

Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon. The meeting is $15 for members, $20 for guests of members, and $25 for general public. ***(SCC)***

Hotel occupancy up 6 pct. in Aug.

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands reported 66 percent occupancy among its 13-member hotels for August 2009, a 6-percent increase from August 2008.

HANMI
HOTEL ASSOCIATION NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Of the 85,033 room nights available, a total of 56,276 were sold in August, compared to 52,998 of the 88,009 available room nights sold over the same period last year. Room rates dipped slightly from $119.18 last year to $106.58 in August 2009.

"August is a peak season for travel, and the dampening effects of H1N1 flu virus and the world economy on travel are also lessening slightly," said HANMI chair Nick Nishikawa. "It's nice to see small growth, but we are also very realistic about the slower travel period we face from now until the holiday season in December."

So far this year, hotel occupancy is at an average 61 percent, compared to 63 percent over the same period last year.

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the CNMI. ***(HANMI)***

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Manta Ray Band needs $140K for Carnegie trip

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Some of the members of the Manta Ray Band of Saipan Southern High School show off their instruments. From left to right, first row, are Leagine Mendiola (club president), Genevieve Ngiraibuuch and Fumi Nimura; second row, Joshua Sablan, Jan Alcantara, RJ Guiao, Ken Alvarado, Naomi Cabrera, James Camacho, and William DeWitt (conductor); standing at the back is Joe Ray Dela Cruz holding the tuba.

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of the Manta Ray Band of the Saipan Southern High School will need about $3,000 each to realize their dream of performing at the world famous Carnegie Hall in New York City next year.

The band's conductor, William DeWitt, said they need a minimum of $110,000 for the trip.

There are currently 35 students who have already confirmed joining the trip but Dewitt said they are planning to add five more to complete the cast.

"How to come up with the money is the biggest challenge we are facing today," DeWitt said.

The Manta Ray Band is one of six high school bands across the United States that have been invited to perform at Carnegie Hall during the International Music Festival on April 17-21, 2010.

Organized by the World Projects Corporation, admission into the festival is based on audition only and is limited to six high school groups and two showcase university ensembles.

DeWitt said that club members are organizing a fundraising luncheon next week in partnership with the National Honor Society.

Band president Leagine Decada Mendiola said this is just the start of a series of fundraising activities that they would be doing for the rest of the year and before their trip to New York.

"It really quite an honor for everyone of us and the entire CNMI. We are going there to represent the people of the CNMI," she said.

The Manta Ray Band has acquitted itself well in off-island competition and one of their biggest performances was at the opening ceremonies of the Beijing Summer Olympics in 2008.

This year, the annual New York International Music Festival will feature an outstanding faculty of instrumental and choral professionals that include the festival's artistic director Lawrence Sutherland from the California State University.

Activities will include an outdoor performance in Central Park, a dinner dance/cruise along the Hudson River, and group workshops with festival faculty and to culminate with ensemble performances in Carnegie Hall.

The Manta Band club members are Joshua Sablan (trumpet), Merey Len Vela Denora (trumpet), Crista Ching (trombone), Jaynine Parico (percussion), So Jung Song (saxophone), Krysthian Villanueva (saxophone), Euen Joung Ahn (Tenor saxophone), Joseph Jang (percussion), Albert T. Palacios (saxophone), Ted Kim (trombone), Joe Ray DelaCruz (tuba), Jonelie Torres (percussion), John Park (clarinet), Anthony Gomez (trombone), Kevin Tetsuya Yoshino Fejeran (trumpet), Leagine Decada Mendiola (clarinet), Bo Mi Lee (flute), Chan Young Kang (percussion), Donovan Jake Manibusan Tudela (clarinet), Fumi Nimura (clarinet), Jun Yeop Han (tenor saxophone), Ken Alvarado (trumpet), Genevieve Ngiraibuuch (clarinet), Min Jung Song.(clarinet), Momoko Nishikido (trumpet), Pedro Duenas Jr. (alto saxophone), Rebekah Lee (flute), Scott G. Cabrera (trumpet), ShinHye Kwon (flute), and Trini DeLeon Guerrero Macduff (flute).

Guam, USVI press equal health care rights for the US territories

Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho and U.S. Virgin Islands Gov. John P. de Jongh Jr. urged U.S. senators Max Baucus and Charles Grassley in a letter Friday to ensure that U.S. offshore areas, including Guam, the CNMI, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico, be eligible for the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage for new eligibles.

Baucus, chairman for the Committee on Finance in the U.S. Senate, released his chairman's mark for health care legislation that is now pending before the Senate Finance Committee. His mark provides that coverage of newly eligibles in the U.S. territories would not be subject to the new Medicaid spending caps. However, his mark does not state whether the expanded coverage would be subject to enhanced FMAP on the same basis as the states.

Guam's and the other territories' FMAP for 2009 is 50 percent, effective through Sept. 30, 2009. While the chairman's mark would extend the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act increase in the Medicaid cap and increase the territorial FMAP to 55 percent, it would leave the U.S. territories "severely disadvantaged in comparison with their fellow Americans on the mainland," the letter states.

Camacho and de Jongh urged the senators to reduce this disparity by clarifying in the legislation that the extended FMAP for new eligibles also applies to the U.S. territories. They noted that this "would represent a significant step forward in fulfilling [President Barack Obama's] commitment to provide equal treatment for the territories and to ensure that federal health care benefits are available to all Americans, regardless of where they reside." ***(PR)***

Russian media indulge in NMI

Six Russian media outlets visited the Northern Mariana Islands this month, a sign of the big nation's continued interest in this tropical resort vacation destination.

Argumenty I Fakty, Argumenty I Fakty International, Komsomolskaya Pravda, Podvodny Club, Predelnay Glubina, and *Pro Zdorovey* each sent a media representative on a familiarization tour of the Northern Marianas on Sept. 1-9. 2009.

The tour group first stayed at Saipan World Resort, which boasts Saipan's largest water park. While on Saipan they checked out the affordable international cuisine and entertainment at the free, weekly Garapan Street Market in the heart of the island's tourist district. A cultural dinner show and Las Vegas-style Sandcastle dinner show occupied two evenings. Night life stops were made at local bars Oceans, Godfather's and The Flair. The group also experienced the accommodations and dining of Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Aqua Resort Club, and Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The group also visited the "Friendly Island" of Rota for a day and night, where they took in a tour of the eco-tourism isle. They also spent a day on the island of Tinian, known for its world-class gaming casino and prehistoric and World War II historic sites.

Tenorio

Upon returning to Saipan, the familiarization tour also took advantage of the year-round tropical weather with a sunny morning at Managaha, an award-winning islet of white sand beaches and palms trees within Saipan's lagoon. They plunged into a morning boat-based SCUBA dive, snorkeled at local dive hotspot Grotto, took in a few hours of fishing, and enjoyed a sunset dinner cruise. They topped it off with a speedy turn through the jungle on all-terrain vehicles.

Indoor leisure was also enjoyed, including shopping and a visit to Mandi Asian Spa at Mariana Resort & Spa.

"It's clear that Russians are still very much interested in visiting the Northern Marianas," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director, Perry Tenorio. "Russia remains a critical part of our tourism market diversification strategy, and we continue to seek the inclusion of the country in the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program."

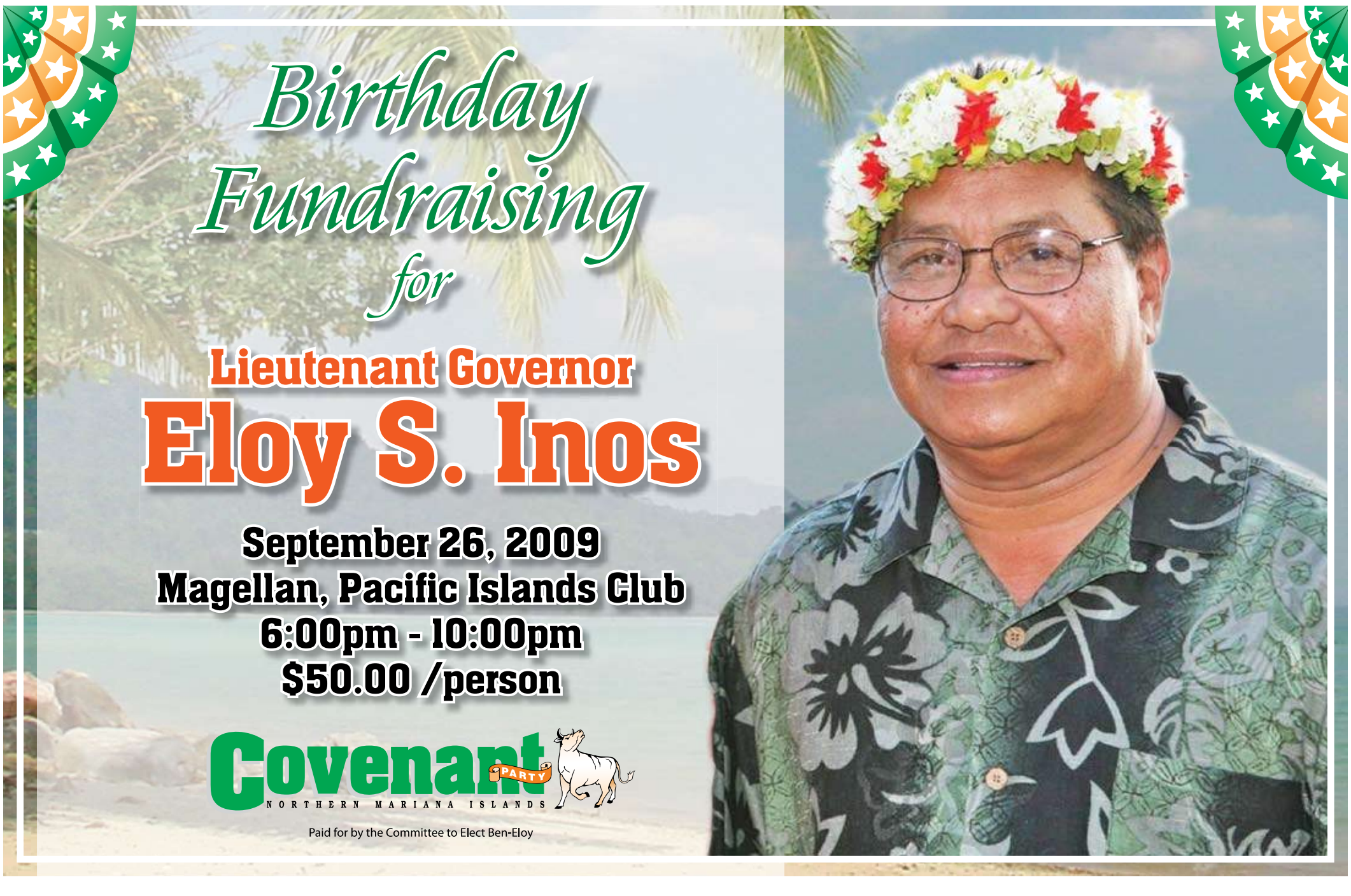
The media publications will each run articles on the Northern Marianas in October 2009 at a total estimated ad value of US$458,000.

Argumenty I Fakty and *Argumenty I Fakty International* are the largest and most popular weekly publications in Russia and lead the Russian press abroad. The newspaper reaches readers of all ages and income levels, among them: politicians, businessmen, technicians, office workers and home-makers. AIF International will provide one-page coverage.

Komsomolskaya Pravda reaches readers of all ages and income levels. Its articles are focused on politics, sports, culture, travel, health, and more. It will provide one-page coverage, an article on its website, and coverage on its radio program.

Pro Zdorovey Magazine targets female readers with articles on culture, travel, food and health. The magazine will provide one-page coverage and an article on their website.

Podvodny Club and *Predelnay Glubina* focus on diving and will each produce a one-page article. ***(MVA)***



Covenant PARTY

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Benigno R. Fitial
GOVERNOR

Eloy S. Inos
LT. GOVERNOR

SENATOR

Ana S. Teregeyo
Saipan

Jacinta M. Kaipat
Saipan

Jose M. Mendiola
Tinian – Incumbent

Joaquin H. Borja
Tinian

MAYOR

Marian DLG. Tudela
Saipan

Jose P. San Nicolas
Tinian – Incumbent

Ramona T. Rebuenog
Northern Islands

The Covenant Party Rally

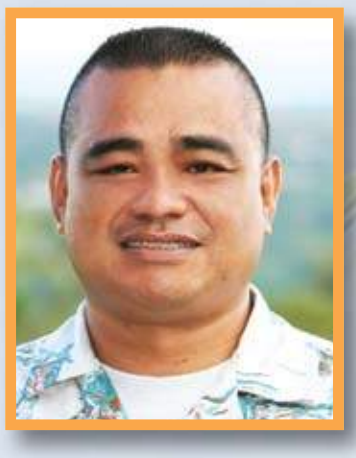
Garapan Fishing Base

(across from Kristo Rai Church)

Sunday, September 27, 2009 • 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

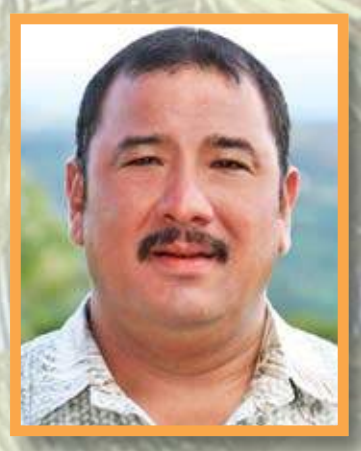
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Antonia DLG. Tudela
Precinct 1

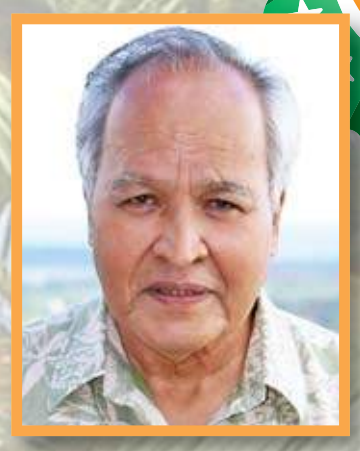


Benjamin M. Cepeda
Precinct 1

Canice K. Taitano
Precinct 1



Vicente C. Cabrera
Precinct 1



Froilan C. Tenorio
Precinct 1

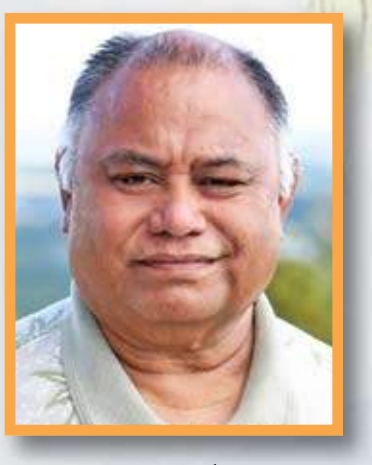
Raymond D. Palacios
Precinct 2 – Incumbent

Ralph S. Demapan
Precinct 2

David R. Maratita
Precinct 3

Edmund S. Villagomez
Precinct 3

Felicidad T. Ogumoro
Precinct 3



Jesus M. Elameto
Precinct 3

Henry K. Rabauliman
Precinct 3

Sylvestre I. Iguel
Precinct 4

Thomas J. Camacho
Precinct 4

Ramon S. Basa
Precinct 5

Daniel O. Quitugua
Precinct 5

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Precinct 6 – Incumbent

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Business

Japan mired in slump as exports, imports tumble

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's exports tumbled 36 percent in August—with car shipments falling by half—and imports also contracted sharply, the government said Thursday, showing the world's No. 2 economy remains mired in a deep slump.

Declines in automobile and steel exports were especially pronounced, the Ministry of Finance said. Exports fell for the 11th straight month to 4.5 trillion yen ($49 billion).

"We are not seeing an improvement in exports due to a continued slump in global demand," said Hiroshi Watanabe, an economist at Daiwa Institute of Research. "Japan's exports were particularly hit hard by stagnant demand in Asia and China."

Imports, meanwhile, dropped 41.3 percent from a year earlier to 4.3 trillion yen, reflecting weak consumption within Japan, where the jobless rate is at a record high as companies shed workers. Consumer finance company Aiful Corp. said Thursday it will cut 2,000 jobs, or about 44 percent of its work force.

The incoming government of Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama is seeking to boost consumption and help households with a range of consumer-oriented proposals, including cutting tolls on highways and giving families with children $275 a month through junior high.

But critics say the Democrats, who unseated the long-ruling conservatives in last month's election, don't have any clear strategy to achieve long-term economic growth.

Japan's monthly trade surplus, or the amount exports exceeded imports, came to 190 billion yen.

Auto exports in August plunged a staggering 50 percent, while shipments of steel products dropped 43.3 percent, the ministry said. Exports of light oil products fell 59.9 percent due to faltering demand in China and Vietnam, it said.

AP

In this June 11, 2009, file photo an checks Japanese vehicles parked before being loaded onto a cargo ship at an export port in Yokohama near Tokyo, Japan.

Report: Citigroup to scale back US footprint

NEW YORK (AP)—Citigroup Inc., one of the biggest recipients of government bailout funds, is looking to scale back its U.S. retail footprint to just six major metropolitan areas and limit most lending to wealthy customers, according to a published report.

Citi's management is looking to reduce the bank's U.S. consumer lending to mainly credit cards and "jumbo" mortgages, The Wall Street Journal reported Wednesday, citing unnamed people familiar with the situation.

The New York-based bank's executives are expected in October to present plans to the board of directors to pare Citi's retail branch network and concentrate mainly on the New York, Washington, D.C., Miami, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles areas, the paper said.

Most of Citi's branch locations are located internationally. Citi currently operates about 1,000 U.S. branches, much fewer than the 5,000-plus run by Bank of America Corp. and JP Morgan Chase & Co., which expanded its network with the takeover of Washington Mutual last year. While the moves would be designed to help the bank work "smaller-but-smarter," the paper said some Citi executives are concerned that the U.S. government, which owns a 34 percent stake in Citi, could balk at branch closings.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Asian stocks fall amid stimulus withdrawal jitters

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Most Asian stock markets fell Thursday amid a big drop in oil prices and as investors worried that support measures for the fragile global economy will be withdrawn too quickly. The declines came after the Federal Reserve kept interest rates unchanged at a regular meeting in Washington Wednesday, as widely expected, and said the pace of economic activity has "picked up" since its last meeting in August. But the Fed also said it would again slow some of its purchases of mortgage-backed securities, which have been part of the extraordinary support the central bank has given the U.S. economy over the past year. Investors have focused on when central bankers and governments will begin to unwind some of the measures they have taken to boost the global economy since the onset of the global financial crisis one year ago.

Oil falls to near $68 as US crude supplies jump

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices dropped to near $68 a barrel Thursday in Asia as an unexpected jump in U.S. crude inventories suggested consumer demand remains in the doldrums. Benchmark crude for November delivery was down 71 cents at $68.26 a barrel by midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract tumbled $2.79 to settle at $68.97 on Wednesday. The $70 a barrel level has been a magnet for months, with growing optimism that the global economy is recovering from recession offset by signs that crude demand isn't picking up. Crude supplies grew by 2.8 million barrels and gasoline by 5.4 million barrels last week, according to the Energy Information Administration on Wednesday. Analysts had expected crude levels to decline by nearly that much, according to a survey by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hills Cos.

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Chorizos 4 lbs. 64 oz. $24.99

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Ichiban Limit 1 CASE $8.99

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Gusto Ham 10 lbs. $15.99 Bar-S Ham 10 lbs. $16.99

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Bar-S Hotdog 1 lb. $1.09

Bonita Crabmeat Imitation 16 oz. $1.99

Ground Beef 5 LBS. $9.99 10 LBS. $16.99

Bar-S Hotlinks 24 oz. $3.99

Mackarel Family Bag $5.99

Peeled Shrimp SC Brand 1 lb. $2.99

Seafood Mix Log Feng Brand 1 lb. $2.59

Blue Crab Section Per Box $8.95

Vega Shrimp 1 lb. $4.99

Imperial Choice Green Mussels 2 lbs. $4.99

Chicken Wings 3 lbs. $5.99/PACK 5.5 lbs. $12.99/PACK

Milk Fish $1.39

Tilapia $.99¢

U.S. Extra Large Eggs Dozen $1.99

Onion 79¢/LB

Garlic per bundle 89¢

Spam 12 oz. LIMIT 6 ALL FLAVORS $2.29

Black Label Luncheon Meat 12 oz. $1.39

Armour & Libby's Vienna Sausage 5 oz. 69¢

Beach Cliff Sardines 3.75 oz. 89¢

Ox & Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz. LIMIT 6 $2.29

Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash 15 oz. $1.99

Hormel Chili No Beans 15 oz. $1.99

DM Beef Stew 15 oz. 2 FOR $3.00

Master A1 Tuna 7 oz. Limit 6 99¢

3 Diamond Tuna $1.19

Sun Flower Mackarel 15 oz. $1.59

Campbells Chicken Noodle Soup 10.7 oz. 75¢

Cream of Mushroom 10 3/4 oz. 99¢

Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn 89¢

Carnation Evaporated Milk 12 oz. $1.19

Crisco All Vegetable Shortening 3 lbs. $4.99

Dragon Veg. Oil 1 Gal. $6.99

Vegetable Oil 5 Gal. LIMIT 1 $24.99

Garden Fresco Vegetable Oil 1 Gal. $6.99

Golden State Vinegar 1 Gal. $3.19

Crisco Pure Corn 64 oz. $7.99

Vlasic Dill Pickles (Spears) 1 Gal. $5.99

Kikkoman 1.6 L. $3.99

Lemon Powder 5.29 oz. $4.99

Gold Medal Flour 5 lbs. Limit 2 pcs. $2.99

Maseca 4.4 lbs. Limit 1 pc. $4.99

Coco Mackerel 15 oz. $1.29

Sugar 2 kg. $1.79

Morton Iodized Salt 26 oz. 69¢

Folgers Classic Roast 39 oz. $10.99

Coffee-Mate Creamer 50 oz. $7.99

Moist Deluxe Except Yellow Classic Cake 18.25 oz. 2 FOR $3.00

Kraft Cool Whip 8 OZ. $1.99 16 OZ. $3.50

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Bounty 15 Rolls $19.99

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RAID 17.5 oz. (red color only) was $5.99 NOW $4.99

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Drypers (All Size) Mega Pack $14.99

Luvs Big Pack (All Size) $19.99

Chamorro Punch 1 Gal. $9.99

Tang 22 qts. $5.99

Kool-Aid 32 oz. $7.99

Sunkist 1 Case Warm Only $5.99

Cottonelle Single 24 rolls Tissue $8.99

Diamond Foil 200 Sq. Ft. $5.99

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BEEF SHANK	$10.95	BEEF BACK RIBS	$7.95
FLANK STEAK	$16.95	BEEF OXTAIL	$16.95
PORK ADOBO	$10.95	BEEF STEW	$12.95
PORK CHOP	$11.95	RIBEYE STEAK	$17.95
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TURKEY TAIL (FAMILY BAG)	$4.99	PORK BUTT	$10.95
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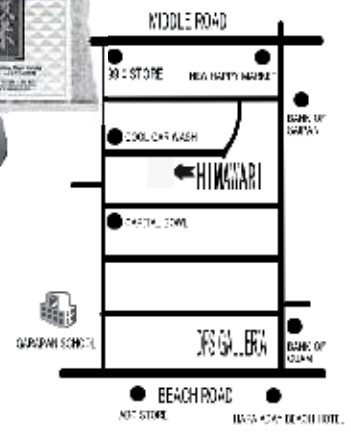

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Nation

Obama to the world: Don't expect America to fix it all

UNITED NATIONS (AP)— President Barack Obama challenged world leaders Wednesday to shoulder more of the globe's critical burdens, promising a newly cooperative partner in America but sternly warning they can no longer castigate the U.S. as a go-it-alone bully while still demanding it cure all ills.

Obama

"Those who used to chastise America for acting alone in the world cannot now stand by and wait for America to solve the world's problems alone," said Obama in put-up-or-shut-up comments before a packed U.N. General Assembly hall. "Now is the time for all of us to take our share of responsibility for a global response to global challenges."

In his first appearance before the group, Obama promised the U.S. would reach out in "a new era of engagement based on mutual interest and mutual respect," but he also wagged a rhetorical finger at leaders who spend much of their time at international gatherings excoriating the U.S. He said "an almost reflexive anti-Americanism" that swept the globe under the administration of his predecessor, George W. Bush, is not "an excuse for collective inaction."

"Nothing is easier than blaming others for our troubles and absolving ourselves of responsibility for our choices and our actions," he said.

And yet, directly following Obama at the podium was Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, who railed against the U.N. Security Council, which includes the U.S., calling it a "terror council" and accusing it of treating smaller nations as "second class, despised."

U.S. presidents—Bush included—have come to the United Nations year after year with a wish list of action items and preaching the gospel of working together. The U.S. is rich and powerful, but cannot solve problems without help, they say, whether Democrat or Republican.

So Obama's message was not new.

But it was delivered in an unmistakably new, more humble tone.

Following a president criticized for making my-way-or-the-highway "requests" of allies, Obama didn't demand so much as he chided and cajoled. It's now an inextricably interconnected world, he said, so that each country's problems become the others'.

"In the year 2009—more than at any point in human history—the interests of nations and peoples are shared," Obama said.

Following a president pilloried for arrogance, Obama talked more modestly about the United States.

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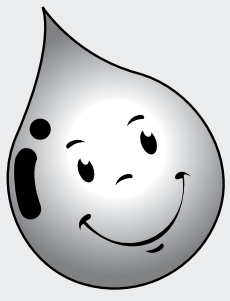

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ACROSS THE NATION

Official: More questioned in NYC terror probe

NEW YORK (AP)—Hundreds of federal agents and police officers widened their investigation of a potential terrorism plot involving an alleged al-Qaida associate on Wednesday as questions lingered about whether early missteps might have made the chore harder. Investigators have fanned out in a New York City neighborhood to re-interview "people previously encountered" during previous raids there, and to locate others who know them, according to a law enforcement official familiar with the probe. The effort also includes a review of phone and other records that could link potential suspects to one another or identify new ones. "Many of the people we've spoken to have been cooperative," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press because the investigation is ongoing.

AP source: Hanged Census worker had 'fed' on chest

MANCHESTER, Ky. (AP)—A U.S. Census worker found hanged from a tree near a Kentucky cemetery had the word "fed" scrawled on his chest, a law enforcement official said Wednesday, and the FBI is investigating whether he was a victim of anti-government sentiment. Bill Sparkman, a 51-year-old part-time Census field worker and teacher, was found Sept. 12 in a remote patch of the Daniel Boone National Forest in rural southeast Kentucky. The law enforcement official, who was not authorized to discuss the case and requested anonymity, did not say what type of instrument was used to write "fed" on his chest.

Senators spar on health bill's effect on seniors

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sweeping health care legislation cleared its first hurdles in the Senate Finance Committee on Wednesday as Democrats turned back a series of proposed changes by Republicans who attacked it as a threat to Medicare. Yet even as they prevailed on politically charged votes, majority Democrats also tacitly conceded one point—that despite a pledge by President Barack Obama, some seniors who receive coverage from private insurers could lose some of the optional benefits they enjoy. In a long day of maneuvering, Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine sometimes sided with fellow Republicans on the panel and occasionally voted with Democrats who hope she ultimately will become the first GOP member of Congress to back legislation along the lines that Obama wants. The maneuvering came as Democrats cheered a vote in the Massachusetts Legislature that will allow the appointment of a replacement for the late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy—giving them 60 votes in the Senate. That's the number needed to overcome any Republicans filibuster when health care legislation reaches the Senate floor.

Kidnapped Calif. girl's mom: 'Miracles can happen'

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The mother of a Northern California woman found alive 18 years after she was kidnapped says people should never stop looking for missing children. Terry Probyn was reunited with her daughter Jaycee Dugard last month. Probyn said in a statement Wednesday that she hopes her family's story will focus attention on all missing children. She said her daughter's story proves that "miracles can happen." Dugard was 11 when police say Phillip and Nancy Garrido kidnapped her, then allegedly held her captive. Police say the couple raped Dugard, now 29, and Phillip Garrido fathered her two children. They have pleaded not guilty.

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We continue to seek ways to insure that commerce remain a top priority for our island. Our Mayor is still on track in finding other avenue to develop both agriculture and aquaculture production and to entice more of our people to develop the private sector. We are continuing efforts in trying to find markets for our noni produce which are ready for harvest. We are also continuing our study of abalone so that farmers would have enough information on how to grow this abalone so that we can start producing in large volume for the market. We can all take advantage in developing more of our Tinian Hot Pepper for mass production or get into charcoal production or any agricultural products that we can mass produce and process. There are many local resources that we can capitalize to our benefit.

These are among the many ideas that we are doing to provide our people the opportunity and the interest in developing our local economy at the municipal level. Some criticize the Mayor for some of his ideas but can we really fault the Mayor for trying his best to see what works? We must not be so complacent and sit in the sidelines doing nothing. In this weak economic condition that we are faced with, we must all pitch in and find solutions to generate more revenues and spur economic activities. We can longer continue the attitude of wait and see. We must take the proactive approach and try anything that might work for our economy. It is easy to criticize but unless you offer your ideas and try them out we may never find the solution we all seek.

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect and Elect All Tinian Covenant Party Candidates

Asia

A world first: Vaccine helps prevent HIV infection

BANGKOK (AP)—For the first time, an experimental vaccine has prevented infection with the AIDS virus, a watershed event in the deadly epidemic and a surprising result. Recent failures led many scientists to think such a vaccine might never be possible.

The vaccine cut the risk of becoming infected with HIV by more than 31 percent in the world's largest AIDS vaccine trial of more than 16,000 volunteers in Thailand, researchers announced Thursday in Bangkok.

Even though the benefit is modest, "it's the first evidence that we could have a safe and effective preventive vaccine," Col. Jerome Kim said in a telephone interview. He helped lead the study for the U.S. Army, which sponsored it with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

The institute's director, Dr. Anthony Fauci, warned that this is "not the end of the road," but said he was surprised and very pleased by the outcome.

"It gives me cautious optimism about the possibility of improving this result" and developing a more effective AIDS vaccine, Fauci said in a telephone interview. "This is something that we can do."

Even a marginally helpful vaccine could have a big impact. Every day, 7,500 people worldwide are newly infected with HIV; 2 million died of AIDS in 2007, the U.N. agency UNAIDS estimates.

"Today marks an historic milestone," said Mitchell Warren, executive director of the AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition, an international group that has worked toward developing a vaccine.

"It will take time and resources to fully analyze and understand the data, but there is little doubt that this finding will energize and redirect the AIDS vaccine field," he said in a statement.

The Thailand Ministry of Public Health conducted the study, which used strains of HIV common in Thailand. Whether such a vaccine would work against other strains in the U.S., Africa or elsewhere in the world is unknown, scientists stressed.

The study actually tested a two-vaccine combo in a "prime-boost" approach, where the first one primes the immune system to attack HIV and the second one strengthens the response.

They are ALVAC, from Sanofi Pasteur, the vaccine division of French drugmaker Sanofi-Aventis; and AIDSVAX, originally developed by VaxGen Inc. and now held by Global Solutions for Infectious Diseases, a nonprofit founded by some former VaxGen employees.

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May 23	iPod 16GB Touch	BENAVENTE, DENISE	511108
May 24	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	CAPALAD, PONCIANO	333108
May 25	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	SAURES, REGINA I.T.	969704
May 26	Vacation for 4 to Honolulu	ADA, MARTIN	982800
May 27	Nintendo Wii	CRISOSTIMO, JOHN	534008
May 28	BlackBerry	LACANLALE, JULIE	115303
May 29	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	LIZAMA, JESUS	195006
May 30	Nintendo Wii	DELACRUZ, DANILO	123808
May 31	iPod 16GB Touch	CABO, MARVIN	808105
June 01	Nintendo Wii	BORIA, VICTORIA	489509
June 02	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	TALAVERA, CATALINA	708200
June 03	BlackBerry	PETER, LUTO	329904
June 04	iPod 16GB Touch	TAGUCHI, TAKASHI	620404
June 05	BlackBerry	SAIMON, BRANSON JAY	347603
June 06	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	SABLAN, VICENTE M	447001
June 07	Nintendo Wii	MARTINEZ, FEMINA T.	972608
June 08	iPod 16GB Touch	PUA, FREDERICO	099704
June 09	Nintendo Wii	YE, GUANG ZHANG	041806
June 10	BlackBerry	MAGOFNA, MARIA ANGELES	231608
June 11	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	DELA CRUZ, RICARDO JR.	718501
June 12	BlackBerry	LANIYO, JAYLEE	457501
June 13	Nintendo Wii	TOLENTINO, ROWELL	453600
June 14	iPod 16GB Touch	DUENAS, SHIRLY	289304
June 15	Nintendo Wii	HESUS, ANICIA	456901
June 16	iPod 16GB Touch	REYES, JESUS	625208
June 17	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	OLIVA, ALICIA	812205
June 18	Nintendo Wii	PALACIOS, VINCE	531504
June 19	iPod 16GB Touch	MENDEZ, MELISA	603400
June 20	Vacation for 4 to Honolulu	ARIGO, ARNOLD	726006
June 21	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	AUGUSTINE, HONG	714400
June 22	iPod 16GB Touch	SCRUGGS, JAMES R.	928703
June 23	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	ZUBRICK, CHRISTOPHER	391007
June 24	BlackBerry	CAPALAD, PONCIANO	333108
June 25	iPod 16GB Touch	IGNACIO, PETRONILO	504504
June 26	BlackBerry	LEON GUERRERO, ANTONIO	977500
June 27	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	BASA, ERIK	224209
June 28	Nintendo Wii	RABINO, NILO	029201
June 29	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	CAMACHO, REBECCA	571303
June 30	iPod 16GB Touch	KINGTO, TERRY	229604
July 01	Nintendo Wii	SAWADA, HIDEAKI	078505
July 02	iPod 16GB Touch	CABRERA, BIZHEN	674200
July 03	BlackBerry	CRUZ, BEGONIA	208003
July 04	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	KAMATA, MISAKO	215608
July 05	iPod 16GB Touch	DIAZ, JERRY	760403
July 06	Nintendo Wii	DELOS REYES, NAOMI	980107
July 07	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	ATALIG, JERAD	526800
July 08	iPod 16GB Touch	LI, JUNPING	995307
July 09	Nintendo Wii	MIRAFLOR, RUDY	898803
July 10	BlackBerry	SEMAN, ISABEL	083109
July 11	iPod 16GB Touch	CAMACHO, RICARDO	187401
July 12	BlackBerry	TORRES, CLARISSA	151605
July 13	iPod 16GB Touch	BONTIGAO, SUSAN	534803
July 14	BlackBerry	CASTRO, MENELLIA	535609
July 15	Nintendo Wii	JIANG, ZHEXIONG	816805
July 16	Sharp BluRay DVD Player	REPEKI, BRENDA	976105

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US changes tack on Myanmar

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Wednesday that the Obama administration has decided to engage in direct high-level talks with Myanmar's junta as part of international efforts to promote democracy in the military-run state.

Clinton made the announcement at the United Nations after meeting with her counterparts from a number of countries trying to convince the authoritarian regime to reform, allow dissent and release thousands of political prisoners, including Nobel Peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi.

She said that U.S. sanctions against members of Myanmar's leadership would remain in place but that those measures would now be accompanied by outreach. For months, Clinton had lamented that the sanctions alone were having little impact.

"We believe that sanctions remain important as part of our policy, but by themselves they have not produced the results that had been hoped for on behalf of the people of Burma," Clinton told reporters, using the country's traditional name.

"Engagement versus sanctions is a false choice in our opinion," she said. "So, going forward we will be employing both of those tools, pursuing our same goals. To help achieve democratic reform, we will be engaging directly with Burmese authorities."

The move is the latest in a series of reversals in Bush administration foreign policy by Obama's national security team. The new administration is also reaching out to Iran and has scrapped major elements of Bush's plan to construct a missile shield in eastern Europe.

The decision to engage Myanmar stemmed from a review of U.S. policy toward the country initiated after President Barack Obama took office.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Palace announces Thai king's health has improved

BANGKOK (AP)—The royal palace says the health of Thailand's hospitalized 81-year-old King Bhumibol Adulyadej has improved, with his temperature back to normal and his appetite returning. The palace announced Wednesday night that the king was able to eat more and sleep better, so doctors had reduced the use of antibiotics and glucose drip with which he was being treated. He was admitted to Bangkok's Siriraj Hospital on Saturday night. Officials have not announced the cause of his fever and fatigue. In October 2007, Bhumibol was hospitalized for three weeks with symptoms of a minor stroke. The king is the world's longest-serving monarch.

Police: Revered tribal elders killed by Taliban

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—Police say six people traveling in a car were ambushed and killed by Taliban militants in Pakistan's volatile northwest. Revered tribal leaders are among the dead. Police officer Mohammad Ghani Khan says the anti-Taliban citizen's group was traveling from the Machikhel tribal area Thursday to meet security officials in Bannu district when their convoy was sprayed with bullets. He says police have found six bodies—including four prominent tribal elders. Several people were wounded. The formation of anti-Taliban citizen groups is supported by Pakistan's government and has angered the militants—leading to attacks.

Philippine senator wants to renegotiate US accord

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The head of the Philippine Senate's foreign relations committee called Wednesday for the renegotiation of a military accord with the U.S. that allows American soldiers to help Filipino troops fight al-Qaida-linked militants, saying it violates the country's constitution. Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago presented a resolution from her committee urging the Department of Foreign Affairs to renegotiate the Visiting Forces Agreement or terminate it if the United States refuses The continued presence of U.S. troops in the country over the past 10 years since the approval of the accord circumvents a constitutional ban on foreign military bases unless covered by a treaty, she said.

Jailed former Taiwanese president petitions US

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Former Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian has been indicted on new embezzlement charges just weeks after being sentenced to life in prison, and has filed a lawsuit claiming that the U.S. legally controls Taiwan and should release him from detention, officials and a lawyer said Wednesday. Prosecution spokesman Chen Yun-nan said the new charges issued Tuesday against the jailed former leader accuse him of embezzling $330,000 from official expense funds for his 11 trips overseas as president. Chen was sentenced to life in prison on Sept. 11 after being found guilty of embezzling $3.15 million during his 2000-08 presidency from a special presidential fund, receiving bribes worth at least $9 million, and laundering some of the money through Swiss bank accounts.

World

Despite calls for unity, Iran, Libya blast UN

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—On a day when the U.N. and many nations appealed for global unity, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi on Wednesday denounced what they called an unjust world dominated by five powers.

The Iranian leader, touting his victory in "glorious" June elections, which the opposition claimed were stolen, did not mention the country's nuclear program in his speech to the U.N. General Assembly. He addressed the annual gathering immediately after six global powers who have been trying to rein in Iran's nuclear ambitions announced they expect a "serious response" from Tehran in nuclear discussions on Oct. 1.

Ahmadinejad lashed out at what he said was the rapacious capitalism of the United States, its Western allies and Israel, which he accused of stealing Palestinian land. But he also offered a hand of friendship to any country that "honestly" extends one.

AP

Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad addresses the 64th General Assembly at United Nations headquarters Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009.

His comment followed an Associated Press interview Tuesday night in which he urged President Barack Obama to view Iran as a potential friend instead of a threat.

While Ahmadinejad announced a new Iranian commitment to help build "a durable peace and security worldwide for all nations," his speech was laced with anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic language which prompted a U.S. walkout. "It is disappointing that Mr. Ahmadinejad has once again chosen to espouse hateful, offensive and anti-Semitic rhetoric," said Mark Kornblau, spokesman for the U.S. Mission to the U.N.

The seats of Israel, Canada and other countries also were empty in the sparsely filled assembly chamber.

WORLD BRIEFS

Curfew-trapped Hondurans seek food amid crisis

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—Hungry Hondurans scrambled through looted stores and lined up for food on Wednesday during a break in a long curfew called to halt violence that erupted with the return of the country's deposed leftist president. Troops and police ringed the Brazilian Embassy where ousted President Manuel Zelaya took shelter on Monday after returning home in a daring challenge to the interim government that threw him out of the country at gunpoint in June and that vows to arrest him if he leaves the shelter of the diplomatic mission. Most other Hondurans were trapped as well, cooped up in their homes since Monday evening by a government order to stay off the streets—an order ignored by some looters and pro-Zelaya protesters.

Rising amid squalor, Senegal monument stirs anger

DAKAR, Senegal (AP)—Towering on a hilltop overlooking the Atlantic, the 160-foot-high bronze statue depicting a family rising triumphantly from a volcano is supposed to symbolize Africa's renaissance. But on a rutted trash-strewn path below, the old Africa is still in view: one where a poverty-stricken population endures incessant power blackouts and flooding—and considers the $27 million monument just another outrageous example of wasteful government spending. "Senegal is going through a profound crisis," said Djiby Diakhate, a sociologist at Dakar's Cheikh Anta Diop University. "Our economy is dying. People are struggling to eat. We should be spending money helping people survive."

UK reports: Pope Benedict XVI to visit Britain

LONDON (AP)—Pope Benedict XVI next year will make the first visit to Britain by a pontiff in decades, British media reported Wednesday. Journalists traveling to New York with Prime Minister Gordon Brown reported on the planned visit. Brown's Downing Street office refused to officially confirm it, but a spokesman said the Pope would receive a warm welcome if he were to visit. "The Prime Minister is obviously delighted at the prospect of a visit from Pope Benedict XVI to Britain," the prime minister's spokesman said in a statement. "It would be a moving and momentous occasion for the whole country and he would undoubtedly receive the warmest of welcomes."

Chavez offers Obama backhanded compliments

NEW YORK (AP)—The last time he was here, Hugo Chavez called then U.S. President George W. Bush "the devil," but on Wednesday Venezuela's leader offered slightly more-positive sentiments for Barack Obama.

"The arrival of President Obama, who can deny it, generates, has generated and will continue to generate big expectations," Chavez told a meeting of U.S. union leaders at the Venezuelan mission to the U.N.

In New York for his scheduled address before the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday, Chavez praised Obama's Wednesday speech before the same body, noting that the U.S. president said Washington is ready to work to promote peace.

But Chavez also said the White House and the foreign policy it crafts is unlikely to live up to the president's lofty words.

"Sometimes one gets the sensation that there are two Obamas. One, who gave the speech, is good. The other, really, makes decisions that are contradictory to his speech," he said.

In his words to the General Assembly, Obama pleaded for "a new era of engagement" on global problems, telling assembled world leaders that the United States shouldn't pursue a go-it-alone stance.

Chavez said that when Obama talks about peace, "you have to applaud that," but added "if you are promoting peace, then why the seven military bases in Colombia?"

The U.S. has asked Colombia for greater access to that country's military facilities, but says the proposal will not constitute a permanent presence there. Chavez isn't buying that.

Commonwealth Government Employees' Credit Union
PO Box 500135, Saipan MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy Inos through the Commonwealth Government Employees' Credit Union Board of Directors (BOARD) hereby gives notice that the BOARD has scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, September 29, 2009 at 3:00 pm at the Credit Union Office in Capitol Hill, Saipan. The following agenda will be discussed:

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Adoption of Minutes
  May 08, 2009

II. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
- A Collection Status
- B. Financial Report-Monthly
- C. Operational Matters

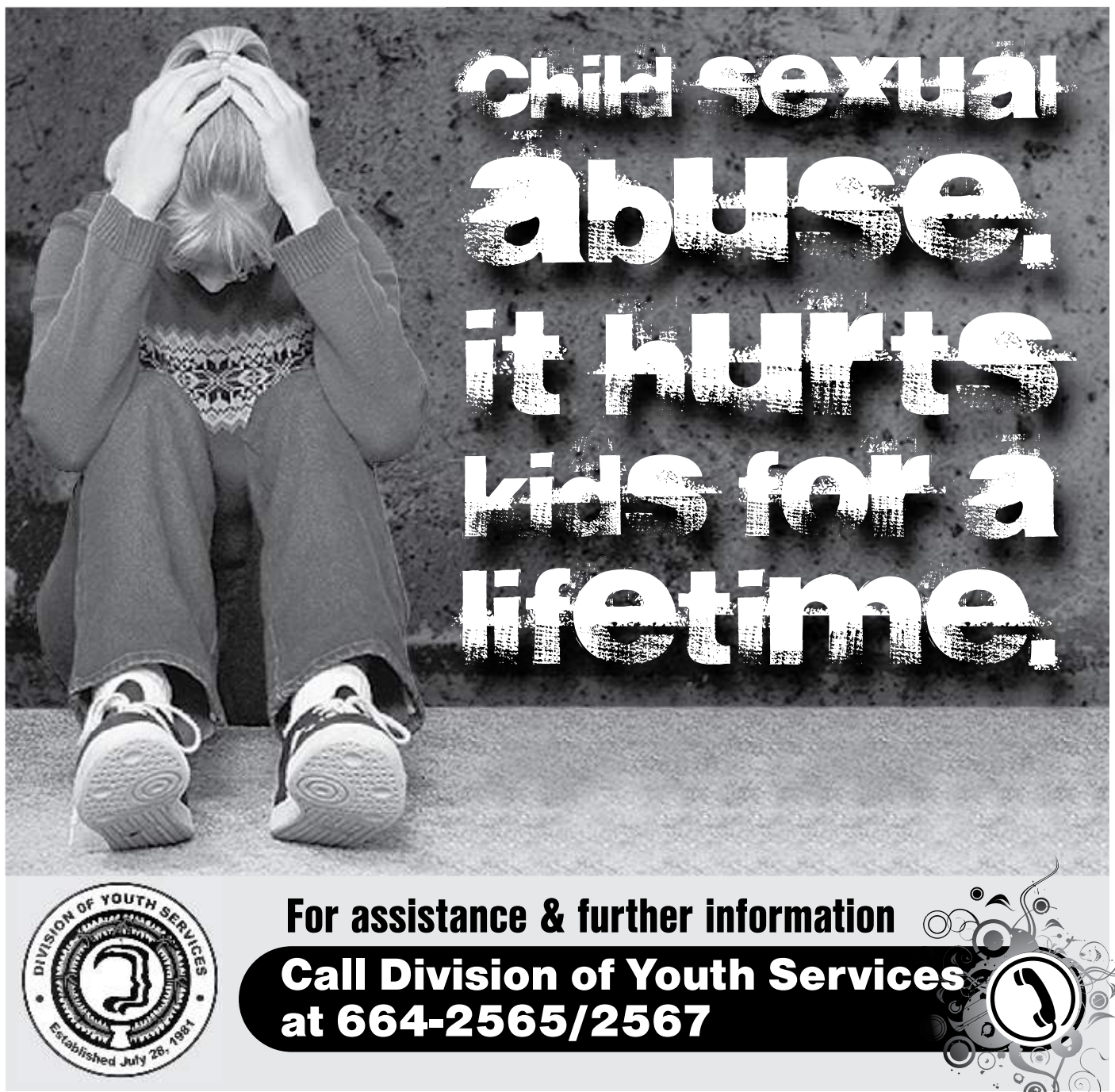
III. OLD BUSINESS
- A. Audit Status
- B. SCU
- C. Outstanding Travel
- D. Meeting Date

IV. NEW BUSINESS
- A. Loan Policy
- B. MPLT Response

V. MISCELLANEOUS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

/s/ **Frances A. Castro**
Chairperson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Off The Wall

Pair trying to catch fish net $87,000 in cash

SYDNEY (AP)—Two Australian teenagers who found almost 100,000 Australian dollars ($87,000) in cash during a fishing trip have handed it over to police—after spending some time thinking about it. The pair discovered the money earlier this month near the New South Wales town of Nimbin—a center of hippie culture where members of numerous communes annually celebrate a festival to promote cannabis use.

The teenagers contacted police on Friday, after revealing the find to an unidentified adult they know and getting some legal advice, police said in a statement.

Inspector Greg Moore said police were investigating whose money it might be, and whether the stash of cash was linked to crime. "It could be proceeds of ill-gotten gains," Moore told the Australian Broadcasting Corp. on Monday.

Police had searched an area at Tuntable Creek where the teenagers found the money, but found no more cash and no clues, he said.

He said the teenagers, who were not identified, might be able to claim the money if no one else comes forward with a legitimate claim.

Italian police seize mafia boss' pet crocodile

ROME (AP)—Here's another of the Mafia's trademark offers-you-can't-refuse: pay or be eaten by a crocodile.

Italy's anti-Mafia police unit said Wednesday it has seized a crocodile used by an alleged Naples mob boss to intimidate local businessmen from whom he demanded protection money.

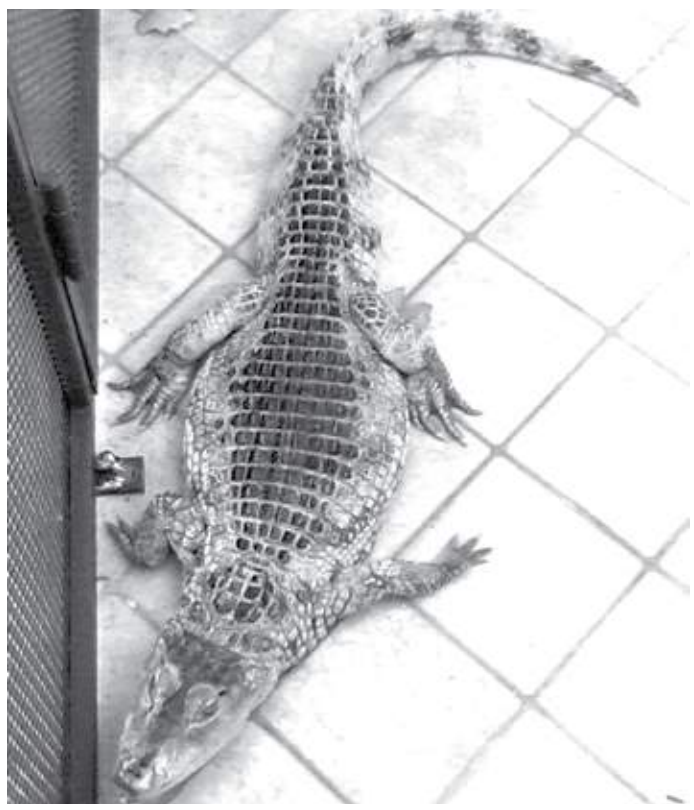
Officers searching for weapons in the man's home outside the southern Italian city last week found the crocodile living on his terrace, said police official Sergio Di Mauro.

The crocodile, weighing 40 kilograms (88 pounds) and 1.7 meters (5.6 feet) long, was fed a diet of live rabbits and mice, Di Mauro said.

He said the suspect, an alleged boss in the Naples-based Camorra crime syndicate, used to invite extortion victims to his home and threaten to set the animal on them if they didn't pay or grant him favors.

The man was not arrested but placed under investigation for illegal possession of an animal, Di Mauro said. Investigators are also working on extortion charges against him.

Di Mauro said the animal is believed to be a caiman, a species that lives in Central and South America, and it is not yet clear how it got to Italy. The crocodile was placed in the care of Italy's forestry service.



In this photo released by the Italian DIA Antimafia Investigative Department, a crocodile is seen on the balcony of the home of an alleged up-and-coming Camorra crime syndicate boss, in Naples, southern Italy, Sept. 23, 2009. AP

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OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Game over: Fla. cops caught playing Wii on the job

LAKELAND, Fla. (AP)—It's game over for some police officers who played video games while they raided a convicted drug dealer's home in central Florida. Surveillance video obtained by WFLA in Tampa caught the officers playing a Nintendo Wii bowling game, with one furiously jumping up and down in celebration. Officials say some of the officers could be disciplined. Officers with the anti-drug task force had just stormed into the home of the convicted drug dealer, who was already in custody. One Polk County sheriff's detective can be seen taking several breaks from cataloging evidence so she can bowl frames. The officers did not know a video camera had been set up in the house before the March raid.

Man accused of sword attack after finding soda can

BRYAN, Texas (AP)—A man who was apparently was upset after finding a soda can in his room allegedly used a sword to cut two of his roommates. Michael Angel Zamago was jailed on Friday on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon related to family violence. Bail was $25,000. A police report indicates Zamago was upset to find a soda can in his room, thinking someone entered without permission. Zamago allegedly used the sword to poke holes in a closed door to a room where the pair fled. One roommate has a cut under his right arm pit. The other suffered a cut in the shoulder area. A jailer who declined to provide his name said there was no record of an attorney for Zamago.

Mass. postal worker admits to stealing 30,000 DVDs

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)—A former postal service employee has pleaded guilty to stealing more than 30,000 DVDs that moved through a western Massachusetts post office. Myles Weathers, formerly of Springfield, took DVDs that were mailed by Netflix to customers for a year beginning in January 2007. Federal prosecutors say the movie rental company alerted Springfield post office officials that a suspiciously high number of DVDs were disappearing. As many as 100 movies a week were disappearing. Weathers was arrested in February 2008 after investigators filmed him taking DVDs from packages and slipping them into his backpack. He faces 10 months to 16 months in prison and restitution costs of about $38,000 at his Dec. 23 sentencing. Weathers' attorney did not immediately return a call seeking comment Tuesday.

Naked man, 91, holds drunken intruder at gunpoint

LAKE WORTH, Fla. (AP)—Authorities say a 91-year-old South Florida man jumped out of bed naked and held an intruder at gunpoint until deputies arrived. The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office said Robert E. Thompson woke up Saturday morning after a would-be burglar climbed his backyard fence and was met by his charging dog, Rettt, a Rottweiler and Doberman pinscher mix. Thompson heard the commotion, grabbed his .38-caliber revolver and phoned police without ever getting dressed. Deputies said Thompson fired a warning shot as 26-year-old Jose Pasqual started to come toward him. Thompson kept his gun trained on Pasqual until deputies arrived. Pasqual was booked in the Palm Beach County Jail on a burglary charge and did not immediately have an attorney.

SC mayor defends no-chase policy for police

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP)—The mayor of a small South Carolina town says she banned her police officers from chasing suspects on foot after an officer was hurt running after a man. Wellford Mayor Sallie Peake said Monday she issued the order in August after the city had to pay for an officer who missed work after chasing a "guy who had a piece of crack on him." She said a drug possession charge was not worth the cost to taxpayers.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Division of Labor
Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0907 or 0911 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0992

PUBLICE NOTICE OF HEARING

The following Non-resident workers and Employer is hereby notified to report to the Department of Labor, Administrative Hearing Office, 2nd Floor, Afetnas Building, San Antonio Saipan for a hearing to address the matter of the complaint. This notice will serve as a "Proof of Service of this Notice of Hearing". For information, please contact Investigator Jeffrey T. Camacho at 236-0900 ext. 275.

Employee	Employer	Case Number	Date/Time
Wang, Lili	Huang Zheng Corp.	CAC#09-243-07	10/20/09 @ 1:00 pm
Huang, Quan	Huang Zheng Corp.	CAC#09-243-07	10/20/09 @ 1:00 pm
Lin, Anshu	Huang Zheng Corp.	CAC#09-243-07	10/20/09 @ 1:00 pm
Wang, Meng	Huang Zheng Corp.	CAC#09-243-07	10/20/09 @ 1:00 pm
Hua, Li Rong	Huang Zheng Corp.	CAC#09-243-07	10/20/09 @ 1:00 pm

Failure to appear at your scheduled hearing shall be grounds for default and may result in the referral of affected worker to the Division of Immigration for their action and sanction against the employer.

Date this 16th day of September 2009.

Jeffrey T. Camacho
Director of Labor/Designee

Science & Technology

Smoke on the water——and in the microphone?

NEW YORK (AP)—What do you get if you combine a smoke machine, some tubing, a laser pointer, a fan and a piece of toilet paper?

Answer: a microphone unlike any other.

Inventor David Schwartz says the device, still a prototype, could be a big leap for microphones because it picks up sound almost out of thin air. It doesn't need a "diaphragm"—the thin membrane in a conventional microphone that responds to vibrations in the air.

The diaphragm can distort and weaken the sound picked up. Since it doesn't have one, the "smokrophone" could be a high-fidelity recording microphone, or a supersensitive long-range microphone for spying, Schwartz suggests.

Here's how the prototype works: A clear, vertical plastic tube has a small smoke machine at the bottom, and a fan at the top. The fan pulls the smoke in an even stream past a laser beam, which is pointed at a sensor. If you talk into a hole in the tube, you disturb the smoke stream, affecting how the sensor picks up the beam. Toilet paper over the hole keeps the puff of your breath from blowing away the smoke.

In the first demonstration outside Schwartz' workshop, the microphone could pick up his voice. It wasn't particularly clear, but then the setup is still crude: the laser is a $7 pointer, for instance.

Schwartz said he got the idea at an Italian restaurant in 2004, when he noticed that every time his wife spoke, the thin stream of smoke from a candle would waver. He soon bought a disco fog machine for experiments. In October, he will show off the microphone before the Audio Engineering Society in New York.

Schwartz has never designed a microphone before, though he does have a long history in audio engineering.

Life magazine goes online with Google scan project

NEW YORK (AP)—Decades of Life magazine have been scanned and posted online, giving the public the first comprehensive electronic access to the iconic publication's archives.

Life already has made images available through the Life.com Web site and a partnership with Google Inc. The latest effort, also with Google, makes stories available as well, all searchable and viewable for free in their original magazine layout.

"Every day we receive requests from readers looking for these issues for research purposes, and to find photos and articles featuring family members, hometowns and other memories," Andrew Blau, president of Life Inc., said in a statement. "Now with these full issues available online, readers will be able to browse through history as it was being recorded."

The online archives are part of Google's ambitious book-scanning project, which has prompted a copyright-infringement lawsuit by publishers and authors. The parties have settled, though they are renegotiating details after the U.S. Justice Department concluded that the original deal probably violates antitrust law.

The Life archives are not dependent on that settlement because the Time Warner Inc. magazine is agreeing to make its works available through Google.

The archives cover the magazine's main run as a weekly, from 1936 to 1972—more than 1,860 issues in all. After the weekly ceased publication in 1972, it was resurrected as a monthly in 1978 and ended again in 2000. From 2004 to 2007, Life appeared as a weekly newspaper supplement.

HELP FILE

By ROB PEGORARO
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

Those same automated filters that try to keep your inbox free of unsolicited, often-fraudulent junk mail can also bottle up your own outgoing messages. When that happens, you generally won't get any notice that your e-mail got stopped at the border, while your would-be correspondents probably won't have any idea that you tried to send a message unless they check their e-mail service's spam folder. (I try to do that myself once a week; usually, I find 5 to 10 legitimate, wrongly quarantined messages for every 100 spam e-mails.)

To reduce the odds of this happening, try to avoid the obvious spam keywords, such as prominent or repeated references to certain pharmaceuticals, jewelry brand names or commercial software titles. Sometimes, messages free of those traits still get held up by spam filters; in those cases, writing a clear, specific subject header—preferably free of exclamation points or repeated capital letters—will help your message stand out from all the junk in the spam folder. That will also help even if your message gets through to the recipient's inbox, considering how many of us will skip past or delete a message from a strange sender with a blank or generic subject line.

■ ■ ■

The idea of updating the software in a television may sound like a bad joke, but it's a not-necessarily-unpleasant reality of today's increasingly computerized home electronics. Manufacturers sometimes ship free updates that fix problems discovered in the field or improve performance—something not possible with a simpler generation of gadgets. But a high-definition television or Blu-ray player most likely can't look for an update in the way that a copy of Windows or Mac OS X could, so it's up to you to check.

Visit your device manufacturer's Web site and look for a "support" link on its home page; in most cases, after clicking on that you can check for any available updates for your gadget by typing its model number or selecting it off a list. On TVs with a USB port, installing a firmware update can be as simple as copying a file to a USB flash drive, then plugging that into the TV (as I recently discovered with a Sony HDTV). For DVD or Blu-ray players, you may have to burn the updater file to a blank CD and pop that into the player.

Engadget blog: Wii nears price cut by $50 to $200

NEW YORK (AP)—A $50 price cut may be imminent for Nintendo's popular Wii gaming console.

Tech blog Engadget said in a posting late Tuesday that the Wii, which has cost about $250 since its 2006 launch, will see its price drop to $200 beginning Sunday.

Engadget, which is owned by Time Warner Inc.'s AOL, posted what it said was a leaked memo from Best Buy Co. talking about the price drop.

Representatives Nintendo Co. did not immediately return phone messages left Wednesday by The Associated Press. Best Buy declined to comment.

Speculation about a price cut has grown after the other two console makers, Sony Corp. and Microsoft Corp., reduced prices on their systems in August. And video game blog Kotaku has posted what it said were images of flyers from major retailers advertising a coming price cut.

Console price cuts are customary for the video game industry after the systems have celebrated a birthday or two, because they help lure in mass audiences who don't want to spend large chunks of cash on them.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Rehabilitation Council - Statewide Independent Living Council Joint Meeting

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the State Rehabilitation Council & the Statewide Independent Living Council will hold their FY 09 Joint Council Meeting on **Friday, September 25, 2009 at the Azucena 1 & 2, Fiesta Resort Hotel from 9:00am-2:00pm.** Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Welcome & Introduction

II. Review and Adoption of Agenda

III. Adoption of Previous Council Minutes
- Joint 09/25/08
- SRC 05/21/09
- SILC 09/03/09

IV. Reports
- SILC Chairman
- Committee Chairpersons
- SRC Chairman
- OVR Director
  - Monitoring Report
  - ARRA Funds
  - OVR Annual Report
  - Fiscal Update
  - Consumer Services/Statistics

V. Election of Council Officers

VI. Mutual Projects
- Accessible Public Transportation
- 2009 Nat'l Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)

VII. Schedule of 2010 Council Meetings (SRC/SILC)

VIII. Announcements/Miscellaneous

IX. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537(voice) or 322-6449(TTY). Please contact Magin Iginoef (Council Liaison) two days in advanced for necessary arrangements.

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by the United States Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

Life & Style

Mackenzie Phillips says she had sex with her dad

CHICAGO (AP)—Former child star Mackenzie Phillips said Wednesday that she had a decade-long sexual relationship with her father, pop superstar John Phillips, who also taught her how to roll joints and injected her with cocaine.

Mackenzie Phillips, 49, writes in her new book, "High on Arrival," that she had sex with her father on the night before she was to get married in 1979 at age 19.

Phillips wrote in her book: "I woke up that night from a blackout to find myself having sex with my own father." John Phillips, who died in 2001, was the leader of the 1960s group the Mamas and the Papas.

She told "The Oprah Winfrey Show" in an interview that aired Wednesday that her siblings "definitely have a problem with this." Winfrey also read a statement from Genevieve Waite, John Phillips' wife at the time of the alleged abuse and Mackenzie's stepmother. Waite's statement said John Phillips was "incapable, no matter how drunk or drugged he was, of having such a relationship with his own child."

Phillips, 49, who starred on TV's "One Day at a Time," said the sexual relationship with her father lasted a decade and ended when she became pregnant and didn't know who had fathered the child. She had an abortion, which her father paid for, and "and I never let him touch me again."

Phillips' mother is Susan Adams, the first of John Phillips' four wives. He was also married for eight years to "Mamas and Papas" singer and co-founder Michelle Phillips.

Phillips has long acknowledged having drug problems, and she told Winfrey that she first tried cocaine when she was 11 years old. Her father did drugs with her, taught her to roll joints and injected her with cocaine. Phillips said she's been clean for a year after pleading guilty to possessing cocaine and entering a drug treatment program.

She said she confronted her father in the early stages of the abuse, which she described as rape.

"My dad said, 'Raped you? Don't you mean when we made love?' And in that moment I thought, 'Wow, I'm really on my own here,'" Phillips said. She learned to turn her anger toward herself and "boxed it away" rather than think about the drug-fueled incest, she said.

Phillips said she doesn't hate her father, who died in 2001 of heart failure at the age of 65.

"I understand that he was a very tortured man and ... passed that torture down to me," she said.

Phillips said the sexual relationship, although she believes it eventually became consensual, was "an abuse of power" and "a betrayal" on her father's part. She said she forgave John Phillips on his deathbed.

"I can't be the only one this has happened to," Phillips said. "Someone needs to put a face on consensual incest." Her book was in the top 20 on Amazon.com as of Wednesday afternoon, but it wouldn't be the first popular book about consensual incest. In 1997, novelist Kathryn Harrison had a best-seller with "The Kiss," a memoir about her affair with her father.

John Phillips, who also had an acknowledged history of drug abuse, co-founded the Mamas and the Papas and helped write its biggest hits, including "California Dreamin'" and "Monday Monday." He also helped organize the 1967 Monterey Pop Festival, which helped introduce Jimi Hendrix to American audiences.

AP

This March 5, 1981 file photo shows John Phillips of the pop group 'The Mamas and The Papas,' left, and his daughter MacKenzie, right shown during a taping of the John Davidson Show in Burbank, Calif.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
CJPA - CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING AGENCY
Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center

Public Service Announcement - Availability of Federal Funds

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency (CJPA) is announcing the availability of federal funds from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). These Grant Programs includes the Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and the STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant program under the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW).
A brief description and amounts available for each program are listed below, less planning and administrative costs stipulated under each program and are allotted to CJPA as the Designated State Agency (DSA) administering these programs in the CNMI.

I. Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant: FY2009 $359,279.00

Proposed as a mechanism to streamline justice funding and grant administration, the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) - Edward J. Byrne Memorial Program allows states, tribes, and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions. JAG provides agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and place justice funds where they are needed most, and simplifies the administration process for grantees. The JAG purpose areas are: Law Enforcement Programs, Prosecution and Court Programs, Prevention and Education Programs, Corrections and Community Corrections Programs, Drug Treatment Programs and Planning, Evaluation, Technology Improvement Programs, and Crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation).

Funds under this program may be used to support the hiring, training, and employing of additional law enforcement officers and necessary support personnel on a continuing basis. Furthermore, funds can be used to procure equipment, technology, and other material directly related to basic law enforcement functions, as well as establishing crime prevention programs involving cooperation between community residents and law enforcement personnel to control, detect, or investigate crime or to prosecute criminals.

II. STOP Violence Against Women Act: FY 2009 $562,991.00

The Office on Violence Against Women, a component of the U.S. Department of Justice, provides national leadership in developing the nation's capacity to reduce violence against women through the implementation of the Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors (STOP), VAWA. Established by legislation, funds through VAWA formula grant, are made available to support efforts in developing programs, policies, and practices aimed at ending domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in state, local, and tribal partnerships among police, prosecutors, victim advocates, health care providers, faith leaders, and others. STOP-VAWA grant programs provide assistance for victims through protection and services that they need to pursue safe and healthy lives, while simultaneously enabling communities to hold offenders accountable for their violence. In accordance with the STOP program requirements "CNMI Three Year Implementation Plan", STOP-VAWA grant funds are made available to support law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, and the Superior Court in the CNMI.

Pre-qualified agencies mentioned below, must submit a complete application of how available funds will be used, including an implementation plan of how goals, objectives and activities will help meet the predicted outcomes of their respective programs.

Under the VAWA FY' 09, in accordance with CNMI Implementation Plan, these categories and/or agencies are allotted at least the following amounts:

- **30% Non Profit, Non Governmental Victim Services**; of which at least 10% is to be distributed to culturally-specific community based organizations;
- **25% Law Enforcement** (Department of Public Safety, Office of Adult Probation and Office of Parole);
- **25% Prosecution** (Office of the Attorney General);
- **5% Courts** (Family Court);
- **15% Discretionary**; maybe spent at the discretion of the state/territory to address statutory program areas.

The available funds will be awarded by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System "Supervisory Council" through a sub-grant review process consistent with the project description outlined in the program applications and accompanying strategies for the aforementioned DOJ programs. The projects funded under these programs will be monitored and administered by the Criminal Justice Planning Agency. The Supervisory Council is expected to meet mid October 2009 and will be announced.

All complete applications must be submitted to CJPA no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday October 2, 2009.

For Tinian and Rota Applications Only: (CJPA fax: 664-4560)
Complete and full applications submitted from Rota and Tinian will be accepted by fax following the deadline said above, including a "must" be submitted hardcopy via air waybill with the deadline said above stamped or recorded on the "executed on date and time" section of the air waybill. Incomplete application(s) sent in by fax will not be accepted.

Interested applicants can contact the CJPA at 664-4550 or stop by the CJPA Office on Capitol Hill (House #1314 or #1315) to obtain a Sub-Grant Application Form. The application format is also available through the CJPA Web Site at www.cjpa.gov.mp. Please indicate and specify which grant program you are applying for on the application. For more information, please call 664-4554 for Ms. Shirlynn Perez regarding VAWA and 664-4553 for Mr. Paul Tenorio regarding Byrne JAG or if necessary contact Mr. Jerome Ierome, Executive Director at jerome.ierome@cjpagov.mp

/s/ Hon. Miguel S. Demapan
Chairman, Supervisory Council

/s/ Mr. Jerome Ierome
Executive Director, CJPA

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950
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Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION
September 4, 2009

Notice is hereby given, that pursuant to that certain **Writ of Execution on Personal Property** by the **CNMI Superior Court in Civil Action No. 04-0588C**, the Commonwealth Development Authority ("CDA"), **together with assistance of the CNMI Department of Public Safety**, shall auction off to the highest bidder **assets of Wespac Freight including office furniture, equipments and various other items.**

An inventory listing may be obtained at CDA Office, Gualo Rai or on our website at www.cda.gov.mp, photos are available online.

The auction shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:
1. The items are being sold **"AS IS"** and **"WHERE IS"**;
2. The items are being sold **WITHOUT WARRANTY** of any type;
3. The public auction will be held at the **Wespac Freight Parking Lot, Lower Base, Saipan on Friday, September 25, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.;**
4. Terms of the sale are cash, certified check, or credit card (Visa & Mastercard); and
5. CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw this notice and postpone the sale from time to time.

Full payment of the bid amount is required before the property can be removed from site. Payment must be received before end of business day, 4:30 p.m. Friday, September 25, 2009. Failure to make full payment will cause award to be null and void.

CDA is attempting to collect a debt and any payments received will be used for that purpose. Any interested party or person may contact Mr. Oscar C. Camacho, Loan Manager, CDA at 234-7145 for further information or to inspect the items. Failure to inspect the property will not constitute grounds for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer. All sales are final.

Dated this 4th day of September, 2009

Commonwealth Development Authority
/s/ Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Coastal Resources Management
Caller Box 10007, 2nd Floor, Morgen Building
San Jose, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel(670)664-8300 • Fax(670)664-8315
Website: www.crm.gov.mp

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OFFICE
NOTICE OF MEETING
OF THE
CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos through the Coastal Resources Management Office (CRMO) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on Monday, September 28, 2009, at 1:30 P.M. at the CRM conference room, 1st floor Morgen Building, Oleai, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
a) Call to Order
b) Roll Call

II. PERMIT APPLICATION
1. Manglona Rock Quarry – CRM Permit no. RMS-2009-X-057
   a. Permit application/summary by CRMO
   b. Discussion of permit application by CRM Agencies/CRMO
   c. Permit status determination (CRM Agencies/CRM)

III. OTHER MATTERS

IV. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. [Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Agency Officials may vote to meet in executive session.]

/s/ **JOHN B. JOYNER, Ph.D.**
Director

Trial in dispute between Apple, Eminem's publisher

DETROIT (AP)—Apple Inc. and Eminem's music publisher have failed to settle a dispute over 93 songs on iTunes, clearing the way for a trial in the rapper's hometown of Detroit.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Virginia Morgan was overseeing private settlement talks Wednesday. Eight Mile Style LLC lawyer Howard Hertz says no deal was reached in the lawsuit.

Eight Mile says it never authorized the 93 songs in a downloadable format on Apple's popular iTunes service. The publisher alleges copyright infringement.

Apple says it has a valid agreement with Aftermath Records, which controls the Eminem sound recordings at issue in the case.

AP

In this Sunday, Sept. 13, 2009 picture, Eminem accepts the "Best Hip Hop Video" award during the MTV Video Music Awards in New York.

The lack of a settlement means Detroit U.S. District Judge Anna Diggs Taylor will start a trial at 9 a.m. Thursday.

Travolta recounts son's death at Bahamas trial

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)—John Travolta said Wednesday he tried desperately to save the life of his seizure-prone son and made perhaps his first public description of the boy as autistic as he testified in the trial of two people accused of trying to blackmail him.

With his wife, Kelly Preston, looking on inside the Nassau courtroom, Travolta said that he performed CPR on his son after a nanny alerted him the teen had fallen ill at a family vacation home on Grand Bahama island. Jett Travolta later died from a seizure.

"I ran downstairs with my wife to help my son," Travolta said.

Travolta is the star witness at the trial of two people - paramedic Tarino Lightbourne and former Bahamian Sen. Pleasant Bridgewater - who are accused of trying to extort $25 million from the movie star. Both defendants pleaded innocent to extortion charges at the trial that began Monday in this island chain off the Florida coast.

Travolta testified that he and Preston were awakened by a nanny around 10:15 a.m. on Jan. 2, the day of Jett's death. Travolta said when he went downstairs, another caretaker was doing chest compressions and he began administering breathing help.

Travolta also said - apparently for the first time in public - that 16-year-old Jett was autistic, confirming speculation that had swirled for years. The developmental disorder is frequently accompanied by seizures.

"He was autistic. He suffered from a seizure disorder," Travolta told the jury when asked about his son's condition.

The actor said Jett suffered seizures every five to 10 days. He said the seizures would last 45 seconds to a minute and Jett typically slept for 12 hours after each one.

The judge dismissed Travolta on Wednesday afternoon but said he would be called back later for further testimony.

Travolta, 55, has kept a low profile since Jett's death. He skipped promotional events this summer for his latest film, "The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3." He thanked his co-stars on his Web site for giving him time to grieve.

Travolta arrived at the Supreme Court building in an entourage of sport utility vehicles for his first appearance at the trial. Security was noticeably heavier than previous days, with Bahamian police officers surrounding the courthouse.

Police say the alleged scheme involved a document related to Jett's treatment. It would have released emergency responders from liability if the family refused an ambulance but police said the document did not come into play.

After waiting half an hour for the ambulance to arrive, Travolta testified, he signed the release because he initially wanted his son taken to the airport for a flight to Florida instead of a local hospital.

He did not address why Jett was ultimately taken to a hospital. But an employee of the resort community where the Travoltas have their Bahamas home, Nathan Moody, testified earlier that he looked into using two private planes to fly Jett out but neither was an option on such short notice.

A nine-person jury was expected to hear from a total of 14 witnesses.

U.S. actor John Travolta and wife Kelly Preston leave the court building in Nassau, Bahamas, Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009.

AP

Author hopes 'genius grant' will shine on Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Haitian-American writer Edwidge Danticat hopes her "genius grant" from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation will bring attention to the wealth of talent struggling to be heard in her impoverished Caribbean homeland.

The 40-year-old novelist and short story writer, who has won previous prizes for her depiction of the travails of Haitian migrants, was one of 24 artists, scientists, journalists and others named Tuesday as fellows by the Chicago-based organization. Each receives a $500,000 grant over the next five years.

"My experience or whatever talent I have is not unique: there are probably thousands of others like me in Haiti or here," Danticat in a phone interview from Miami. "The only difference is I've had some opportunity."

Danticat

The foundation's online biography cites her "graceful, deceptively simple prose" and "moving and insightful depictions of Haiti's complex history" that "reminds us of the power of human resistance, renewal, and endurance against great obstacles."

Danticat's 2007 memoir, "Brother, I'm Dying," told the stories of her father and uncle's struggles in Haiti and the United States,

Her early novel "Breath, Eyes, Memory" was an Oprah's Book Club pick. Other titles include the noted short story collection "Krick? Krack!" and "The Farming of Bones," a retelling of the 1937 massacre of 20,000 to 30,000 Haitian workers in the neighboring Dominican Republic.

Danticat had no idea she was even being considered for the "genius grant" until program director Daniel Socolow called her Miami home early last week. She was holding her 9-month-old daughter, Leila.

"He suggested I put the baby down and then he told me (I had won)," Danticat recalled. She laughed, "I was glad I was sitting down."

After giving out the awards, the foundation sits back and allows the recipients, who must be U.S. citizens or residents, to do whatever they want with it.

"Her work is quite extraordinary," Socolow told the AP by phone from Chicago. "We just bask in the pleasure of what she might do."

Danticat, who most recently visited Haiti in March to see family, says the prize will enable her to take time off from teaching and focus on writing, including a novel still in the works.

The author, who was the editor of a 2001 collection of writing by Haitian-Americans, said she also intends to quietly help other writers develop their talents.

Raised in Port-au-Prince's Bel Air slum, now a crumbling garbage-strewn district that has been a hotbed of gang and government violence through the years, she was taken by her parents to the United States at age 12. She attended Barnard College in New York and then earned a master's degree at Brown University.

"I'm thinking about the journey that brought us here. There are so many people who are probably more talented and more gifted than me but have not had the opportunities," she said.

Previous authors to win the MacArthur grant include Thomas Pynchon, David Foster Wallace and Andrea Barrett. Paul Farmer, the recently named U.N. deputy special envoy for Haiti, was picked in 1993 in large part for his work as a physician in Haiti.

In an overcrowded, impoverished country where most families scrape by on less than $1 a day, many with the help of money sent back from relatives abroad, Danticat's grant money will likely attract notice. Still, Haitian artists said the critical attention to one of their own counts for more in the long run.

"Edwidge's writing shines a light on Haiti," said Evelyne Trouillot, an author and friend who lives in Port-au-Prince. "Not only the poverty ... but the struggle to show that Haitians are human."

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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FUEL HAULING SERVICES
Saipan Harbor & CPA ARFF
CPA-RFP-007-09

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for fuel hauling services to the Port of Saipan and the ARFF facility at the Saipan International Airport. Due to physical constraints and volume required, a small type delivery truck will be suitable.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: ***"Proposal for Fuel Hauling Services to the Port of Saipan and the ARFF Facility at the Saipan International Airport".*** The proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, September 25, 2009,** to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

Questions will be accepted until September 22, 2009 and are to be submitted in writing to the office of the Executive Director or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on September 18, 2009 at the Saipan International Airport Conference Room (2nd floor of the Departure terminal). Attendance at this pre-proposal conference is mandatory and only contractors present at the pre-proposal meeting will be allowed to submit proposals.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s MR. EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E. September 7, 2009
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Procurement and Installation of Standby Generator and Building
Port of Saipan
Project No. CPA-SS-002-09

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), through a grant from the Office of Homeland Security, is requesting for proposals for design/build services for procurement and installation of one (1) brand new generator with controls, housing and fuel tank to be situated at the Port of Saipan.

A detailed scope of work will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Friday, September 11, 2009. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

The proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest;
- Project timeframe;
- Available resources to accomplish project;
- Cost Proposal (in itemized scope of work format);
- Valid CNMI Business License; and
- Proof of insurance.

A pre-proposal conference will be held on **Friday, September 25, 2009 at 3:00 pm** at the Conference Room at the CPA Seaport Administrative Building. The project scope of work and location of the generator will be discussed. Attendance at this conference is mandatory for all companies interested in submitting proposals.

The contract period for design, installation and testing will be based on the contractor's proposal. However, liquidated damages of $500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, October 16, 2009.**

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com no later than Oct. 9, 2009.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: September 9, 2009

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Tinian Harbor Improvements
CPA-TS-001-09

1st AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals to repair certain features to the dock at the Tinian Harbor. A detailed scope of work will be available at the office of the Executive Office on Thursday, September 3, 2009.

The proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest;
- Project timeframe;
- Available resources to accomplish project;
- Cost Proposal (in itemized scope of work format);
- Valid CNMI Business License; and
- Proof of insurance.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: ***"Proposal for Improvements at the Tinian Harbor, CPA-TS-001-09"***. The proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, October 9, 2009**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

Questions will be accepted until October 2, 2009 and are to be submitted in writing to the office of the Executive Director or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 25, 2009 at the office of the Tinian Ports Manager at the Tinian International Airport. Attendance at this pre-proposal conference is mandatory and only contractors present at the pre-proposal meeting will be allowed to submit proposals.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: September 15, 2009

Plea deal ends 'Girls Gone Wild' founder tax case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Girls Gone Wild" founder Joe Francis pleaded guilty Wednesday to filing false tax returns and will avoid further jail time in a tax case that spanned two states and several years.

Francis entered the pleas to two misdemeanor counts of filing false tax returns and one count of bribing Nevada jail workers in exchange for food.

The plea agreement calls for Francis, who has built a soft porn empire filming and marketing videos of young women, to pay $250,000 in restitution and receive credit for jail time served.

Francis was indicted by a federal grand jury on tax evasion charges in 2007 and has spent 301 days in jail. He will receive a year of supervised release.

U.S. District Judge S. James Otero accepted the plea and delayed sentencing until Nov. 6.

In the agreement, Francis acknowledged omitting nearly $563,000 in interest income on his 2003 tax return. Prosecutors initially alleged Francis took more than $20 million in fraudulent deductions in 2002 and 2003 on items such as a Mexican home where Francis entertained celebrities, a Porsche and other items.

The agreement calls for any tax liabilities of Francis or his companies from 2002 to 2008 to be handled in civil or administrative arenas.

Under terms of the deal, Francis also will acknowledge giving more than $5,000 in goods to a pair of Washoe County, Nevada jail workers in exchange for food. Francis was held at the jail from June 2007 to March 2008.

In a statement, Francis thanked Otero and his attorneys for their work on the case and said the resolution to the case will allow him to focus on the soft porn wares of the "Girls Gone Wild" franchise.

AP

Joe Francis, the founder of the "Girls Gone Wild" video empire, smiles as he leaves the Edward R. Roybal Center and Federal Building court on Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009 in Los Angeles.

"I'm happy to finally be able to redirect my attention to the business at hand, which is to provide quality entertainment for our millions of fans around the world," Francis said in the statement.

Francis' attorney, Brad D. Brian, has said in court that prosecutors didn't understand Francis' business model and that the expenses were part of building the "Girls Gone Wild" brand. Trial exhibits that may have been shown to jurors included clippings from magazines showing celebrities such as Orlando Bloom and Kim Kardashian joined Francis at the estate in Mexico.

The agreement comes weeks before the scheduled start of Francis' trial, which has been frequently delayed.

Some of those delays were caused by Francis repeatedly changing attorneys, although the most recent stumbling block came after a key government witness, Francis' former accountant, turned over hundreds of previously undisclosed e-mails. Francis has used the e-mails as a basis of a civil lawsuit against his former accountant, Michael Barrett, and other former employees, contending they set up a shadow company and fraudulently billed him for hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Barrett's credibility as a witness came into question in recent weeks, with Otero warning prosecutors that Barrett posed problems for them. The judge noted that Barrett had sought a reward for turning Francis in, even though he may have also committed a crime.

Otero told prosecutors during a hearing earlier this summer that they should consider resolving the case before it went to trial. He had also questioned Francis' ability to control himself in the courtroom during the trial, nearly sending him to jail when he learned that Francis had taunted a prosecutor.

"The one thing I've learned about myself during this process is that I can be a difficult client, but they are a fantastic group of brilliant legal minds who recognized the truth when they saw it and had the passion to care about what happened to me," Francis wrote in his statement.

More charges for Anna Nicole Smith's lawyer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—More charges were filed Wednesday against the lawyer-boyfriend of Anna Nicole Smith, with prosecutors claiming he helped obtain the drugs that killed the former Playboy model.

Howard K. Stern was charged with five more felony counts in an amended complaint filed by the Los Angeles County district attorney's office, bringing the total number of charges against him to 11.

Smith died of a drug overdose on Feb. 8, 2007, in a Florida hotel room. Prosecutors call Stern an aider and abettor of two doctors, Dr. Sandeep Kapoor and Dr. Khristine Eroshevich, who are charged with improperly prescribing the drugs that killed Smith.

All three pleaded not guilty in May to conspiring to illegally provide Smith with controlled substances. They re-entered their pleas Wednesday to the amended complaint.

The doctors each face six counts including conspiracy, and up to five years, eight months in prison if convicted. It was not clear what sentence Stern would face if convicted, Los Angeles County district attorney's spokeswoman Jane Robison said.

Search warrant affidavits suggest Stern put his name on prescriptions for opiates that were given to Smith, and claim that 44 different medications were prescribed for Smith under a number of other names, including Stern's.

Outside court, Stern's attorney said the additional charges were filed because prosecutors realized their case against him was weak.

"They are using a shotgun approach," Steve Sadow said. "They are throwing everything at him to see what sticks, and nothing will stick."

Prosecutors declined to elaborate on what prompted the additional charges against Stern.

Sadow argues his client should not be blamed for Smith's death because Stern was relying on the doctors to treat the former model, who he said was recovering from an illness at the time of her death.

"Anna Nicole was a very strong-willed woman," Sadow said. "She took the prescription medications because she thought it was in her best interest to control her pain.

A preliminary hearing is set for Oct. 5 but prosecutors asked for a delay until Oct. 13. A decision will be made following a scheduling hearing Oct. 1.

On Tuesday, Kapoor's attorney said she was outraged by claims in search warrant affidavits that her client crossed professional boundaries and had a sexual relationship with Smith.

Attorney Ellyn Garafalo told The Associated Press that Kapoor is openly gay and never had a sexual or social relationship with his famous client.

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1ST AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
for the Procurement and Installation of a Non-Directional (Rotating) Beacon
at the Tinian International Airport

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies to procure and install a brand new non-directional (rotating) beacon at the Tinian International Airport. Proposals are to include procurement, installation and testing of the new beacon with a 1-year warranty and 1-year preventive maintenance services. Beacon specifications are as follows with all new components:

- No less than sixty feet (60') high;
- Must withstand at least 190 MPH winds;
- Have a 1.5 gust factor;
- Include a climbing device and basket tower;
- Include a beacon light with 120 VAC, lens, pulse start, obstruction lights, lightning rod; and
- Installation of electrical including new wiring, splicing and breaker.

All requirements under FAA Advisory Circular 150/5345-12E, "Specifications for Airport and Heliport Beacons" must be adhered to during the procurement and installation of this equipment.

Furthermore, included in the work is the removal and complete disposal of the existing tower. Disposal site is the responsibility of the contractors but it must be located outside CPA's property.

The proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest;
- Project timeframe;
- Available resources to accomplish project;
- Cost Proposal (in itemized scope of work format);
- Valid CNMI Business License; and
- Proof of insurance.

A walk-through inspection will be conducted on **Friday, September 25, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.** in order to assess the area and determine equipment and materials needed for the installation. Attendance at this walkthrough is mandatory for any companies interested in submitting proposals. Prospective proposers will meet at the office of the Tinian Ports Manager at the Tinian International Airport on the date and time mentioned above.

The contract period for design and replacement will be based on the contractor's proposal. However, liquidated damages of $500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, October 9, 2009.**

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: September 15, 2009

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR
SITE EVALUATION SERVICES

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) TRAINING FACILITY
PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-011-09

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms for Site Evaluation Services.

The general scope of work is for site evaluation services of the existing facility for the development of design parameters and a scope of work to be used for Architectural/Engineering Design work to follow for the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Training Facility at the Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

*Note: The selected consultant will **NOT** be allowed to participate in the Architectural/Engineering Design services for the ARFF Training Facility improvements being advertised concurrently.*

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below:

1. A/E Design experience related to projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA);
2. Level of proficiency in performing A/E services promptly; and level of experience with the FAA and AIP grants;
3. The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for AIP projects, and the firm's professional integrity and competence; and
4. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., Monday, October 19, 2009.**

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. Only firms who have established an office in the Commonwealth and a valid business license will be considered.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Mr. Efrain F. Camacho, PE
Executive Director/Contracting Officer
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO
Executive Director/Contracting Officer
Date: September 18, 2009

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR
ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) TRAINING FACILITY
PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-012-09

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms for Architectural/Engineering (A/E) Design Services.

The general scope of work is for A/E design services for the renovation and expansion of the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Training Facility at the Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

*Note: The selected consultant will **NOT** be allowed to participate in the Site Evaluation services for the ARFF Training Facility improvements being advertised concurrently.*

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below:

1. Overall A/E design experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;
2. A/E Design experience related to projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA);
3. Level of proficiency in performing A/E services promptly; and level of experience with the FAA and AIP grants;
4. The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for AIP projects, and the firm's professional integrity and competence; and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, October 30, 2009.**

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. Only firms who have established an office in the Commonwealth and a valid business license will be considered.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Mr. Efrain F. Camacho, PE
Executive Director/Contracting Officer
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO
Executive Director/Contracting Officer
Date: September 18, 2009

'Surrogates' likely to top weekend box office

By JOHN HORN
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

AP

In this film publicity image released by Touchstone Pictures, a scene from, "Surrogates," is shown.

HOLLYWOOD—The last time Jonathan Mostow stood behind a camera, the franchise—"Terminator"—and the production budget—$200 million—scarcely could have been bigger. Following a six-year absence, the director is back in theaters with a much smaller property (an adaptation of a little-known graphic novel) and a fraction of his "Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines" price tag.

All the same, Mostow's "Surrogates" has something to prove and, the director hopes, something to say about our addiction to technology. Opening Friday, the futuristic Bruce Willis thriller about human robots arrives at a thorny time.

It is the first Walt Disney Co. release following the company's Sept. 15 sacking of studio chief Dick Cook, and "Surrogates" is one of the very few adult-oriented dramas the family-focused studio makes in any year. The production itself was not always easy.

Two senior Disney executives, speaking on condition that they not be named because they were criticizing their own movie, said that star Bruce Willis—who hasn't been in a major studio production for two years and whose recent box-office performance outside "Die Hard" movies has been uninspiring—did not get along well with Mostow and that the results were visible on-screen.

"Everybody wants their movie to be successful enough so that they can work again. But this movie wasn't that expensive a movie," the 47-year-old filmmaker says of his $80 million production. "In a world where they are making $200 million movies, I can't imagine that this is a make-or-break thing. I've made movies for $1 million, and I've done movies for a lot more," says Mostow, whose previous action films include 1997's "Breakdown" and 2000's "U-571."

Audience tracking surveys suggest "Surrogates" could open in first place at the box office, with projected weekend ticket sales of about $20 million. It would be among the better openings for Willis outside of a "Die Hard" movie, about double the premieres for the actor's "Perfect Stranger" in 2007 ($11.2 million), 2006's "16 Blocks" ($11.9 million) and 2005's "Hostage" ($10.2 million). The other new films in wide release are "Fame" and "Pandorum," neither of which are expected to do that well.

Mostow said the "Surrogates" story—in the near future, people never have to leave their homes because they can live, work and party vicariously through cosmetically flawless, robotic surrogates—could prove especially timely in an era when people are so tethered to technology they scarcely can go a minute without checking their iPhones.

"It is addressing in some sense this generalized anxiety we have about technology," Mostow says. "It's easy and fun to use, but what is it costing us?"

"Surrogates," adapted by John Brancato and Michael Ferris from Robert Venditti and Brett Weldele's graphic novel of the same name, stars Willis as Greer, an FBI agent looking into the murders of several surrogates and their human masters. Like most of the world's population, Greer has two halves: His better-looking (except, it must be said, for the blond toupee) surrogate is controlled by his stay-at-home, a somewhat grizzled, real self. The Stepford-pretty robots (including Greer's FBI sidekick, played by Radha Mitchell) have helped eliminate crime and racism, but their human operators have even less personal contact than modern-day adults who play "World of Warcraft" all day and night.

Greer is increasingly melancholy over the disconnect, as is the Prophet (Ving Rhames), who has established robot-free reservations. "We're not meant to experience the world through a machine," the Prophet implores his followers.

"The graphic novel touched on this idea of pursuit of physical perfection—the lengths that people will go to achieve some idealized version of their physical appearance—coupled with this idea of technology and how it is swallowing us up. It posed this question: Can you live your life without leaving your home?" Mostow says.

"There have been thousands of movies about robots, but they've always been sentient. Here the robots are just tools."

The story also appealed to Mostow's filmic fascination with heavy metal. "Breakdown," the movie that put the director on the map, focused on what happened to a couple when their SUV conked out and they were menaced by a big-rig driver, and "U-571" looked at the Allied takeover of a German sub in World War II. Then came "Terminator 3."

"I made a robot movie about machines the last time," Mostow says, "and I believe this is a robot movie about people—and that it will be perceived that way."

Mostow, who has four children, has tried to balance work with family, which he says is partly responsible for his long hiatus from the multiplex. He came close to directing "Hancock," but many other projects he's been linked to—"Swiss Family Robinson," "Sub-Mariner," "Real Steal" and "Confessions of a Little League Coach"—never amounted to much more than a headline in Hollywood's trade newspapers.

"People might look at my resume and think that I don't work all that frequently," he says, "but I made a conscious decision to make a movie every three years. I get so involved from the get-go I can't work faster. Moving forward, I am going to speed up."

Despite what the Disney executives contend, Mostow said his relationship with Willis was fine.

"Bruce is a professional, and he gave a strong performance. I admire Bruce as an actor." A spokesman for Willis said: "Bruce has no problems with Jonathan Mostow at all. And he also thinks (Willis) did a very good job in the movie."

If there's one thing Mostow says he'll take away from "Surrogates"—in addition to making sure he and his family don't spend more time online than they do speaking to one another—it's that he's ready to make a movie that doesn't involve servos and solenoids.

"I don't want to be the guy where the studio executive shouts to his assistant, 'Get me the guy who does robot movies!' "

A 'Law & Order' reunion salutes show's 20th season

NEW YORK (AP)—A dozen past and present "Law & Order" stars gathered Wednesday to mark the start of the show's 20th year.

The event was held at the familiar courtroom set of the NBC series, which now ties "Gunsmoke" from a generation ago as TV's longest-running drama.

Former regulars including Benjamin Bratt, Angie Harmon, Jesse L. Martin and Carey Lowell joined Anthony Anderson, Alana De La Garza and other members of the current ensemble.

Also on hand was Steve Zirnkilton, whose sonorous voice is heard each week declaring, "In the criminal justice system ..."

Sam Waterston, who began on "Law & Order" in 1994, said the series, whose scripts take their cue from actual occurrences, would never run out of material.

"The story pool is inexhaustible because it's the news," said Waterston. "You can't wear the news out."

Jill Hennessy, who appeared on the series for three seasons ending in 1996 and went on to star in her own successful series, "Crossing Jordan," said being back on the set stirs memories.

"I think about how much I miss this place," she said. "I wish I could come back and just do a couple of small scenes—anything!"

Linus Roache, who joined the show last year, said "Law & Order" represents a community as much as a cast.

"It's great that, in a way, once you've been part of it, you'll always be part of it," he said. "Part of the show's attraction is all this history."

The series, which began its historic run in September 1990, has not only persevered but also spawned two long-running spinoffs.

"Law & Order" creator Dick Wolf said he hopes the show will be back next fall, when it can claim sole ownership of the endurance record.

"I hope we'll see you here in 2013," he added.

The season premiere is Friday at 8 p.m. EDT.

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Fame
Friday 4:10 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:10 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:10 7:05
Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:05
Paul Iacono, Kristy Flores
Drama, Teen, Music • Rated PG
Synopsis
A talented group of dancers, singers, actors, and artists attending New York City High School of Performing Arts are given a chance to live out their dreams and achieve real and lasting fame...the kind that comes only from talent, dedication, and hard work. As each student strives for his or her moment in the spotlight, they'll discover who among them has the innate talent and necessary discipline to succeed. With the love and support of their friends and fellow artists, they'll find out who amongst them will achieve Fame.

Surrogates
Friday 4:05 7:10 9:50
Saturday 1:10 4:05 7:10 9:50
Sunday 1:10 4:05 7:10
Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:10
Bruce Willis, Radha Mitchell
Thriller, Sci-Fi • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
Set in a futuristic world where humans live in isolation and interact vicariously through surrogate robots. Bruce Willis stars as an FBI agent who enlists the aid of his own surrogate to investigate the murder of the genius college student who invented the surrogates. As the case grows more complicated, however, the withdrawn detective discovers that in order to actually catch the killer he will have to venture outside the safety of his own home for the first time in many years, and enlists the aid of another agent (Radha Mitchell) in tracking his target down.

Pandorum
Friday 4:00 7:00 10:00
Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00
Dennis Quaid, Ben Foster
Action, Thriller • Rated R
Synopsis
Two astronauts awaken in a hyper-sleep chamber aboard a seemingly abandoned spacecraft. It's pitch black, they are disoriented, and the only sound is a low rumble and creak from the belly of the spacecraft. They can't remember anything - who are they, what is their mission? The only way out of the chamber is a dark and narrow airshaft. Corporal Bower, the younger of the two, crawls inside, while the other, Lt. Payton, stays behind for guidance on a radio transmitter. As Bower ventures deeper and deeper into the ship, he begins to uncover a terrifying reality.

And I Love You So
Friday 4:25 7:20 9:30
Saturday 1:30 4:25 7:20 9:30
Sunday 1:30 4:25 7:20
Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:20
Bea Alonzo, Derek Ramsay
Drama, Romance • NR

All About Steve
Friday 4:20 7:15 9:55
Saturday 1:25 4:20 7:15 9:55
Sunday 1:25 4:20 7:15
Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:15
Sandra Bullock, Bradley Cooper
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Gamer
Friday 4:15 7:30 9:45
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:30 9:45
Sunnday 1:15 4:15 7:30
Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:30
Gerald Butler, Amber Valletta
Action, Thriller • Rated R

G.I. JOE
Friday 4:30 7:25 9:40
Saturday 1:20 4:30 7:25 9:40
Sunday 1:20 4:30 7:25
Mon thru Thurs 4:30 7:25
Dennis Quaid, Channing Tatum
War • Rated PG 13
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Father-to-be awaits babies with his wife and mistress

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: Our son, "Philip," has been married for two years. He recently informed his wife, "Karla," that one of his coworkers—I'll call her Sarah—is pregnant with his child. Philip says he still loves Karla and wants to stay together, but he feels an obligation to the other child. Karla is now pregnant with their first baby.

The problem is, Philip is spending most of his time at Sarah's home caring for her, and very little time with his wife.

My wife and I don't know how we should handle the relationship with the two grandchildren. What are our obligations to each? Should we treat them both the same? By the way, my wife and I have never met Sarah.

DOUBLE-WHAMMIED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR DOUBLE-WHAMMIED: None of this is the fault of your grandchildren, so think with your hearts and treat them equally.

Forgive me if this seems pessimistic, but from your description of your son's behavior, I seriously doubt that his marriage to Karla is going to last. So don't worry about not having met Sarah. If he continues to spend the lion's share of his time with her, the chances are good that you'll be seeing quite a bit of her in the future.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: "Robert" and I have been married for 10 years. A few months ago I discovered that he'd had an affair. He says it was because he felt I didn't love him anymore and we weren't communicating. I have never stopped loving him.

The funny thing is, I felt the same way he did—upset that he was spending more time away from home. We're now trying to work things out, but it's hard for me. I keep learning more information about their relationship, and it breaks my heart all over again. I know who she is and what she looks like.

I'll be seeing this woman at a bridal shower soon, and later on this fall at a wedding. Robert says she doesn't know what I look like. I am tempted to pretend to be someone else and quiz her about their relationship.

I'm just so lost. I want to let all of this go and move on, but I haven't been able to. How do I handle the upcoming events with her? I love Robert, and he's trying to make things right.

BROKEN AND LOST IN ILLINOIS

DEAR BROKEN AND LOST: Are you masochistic? You know about the affair; you and Robert are trying to work things out. So quit digging because whatever you unearth will only prolong your pain and insecurity. Your time would be better spent on improving the level of communication you have with your husband. And if you're afraid you'll fall apart or do something inappropriate at the sight of his former love, then my advice is to skip the festivities.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Dinner guests customarily bring gifts of wine to their hosts. The host offers wine with the dinner.

If a second bottle is desired, which wine would be used—more from the host or is it better etiquette to open and serve the gift wine?

BILL IN BEND, ORE.

DEAR BILL: It is not considered a breach of etiquette to keep the gift wine for use at another time, and the guest who brings it should not expect it to be served. (The same goes for candy and nuts, which are also popular house gifts.)

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Ashley Hamilton, Macy Gray tossed from 'Dancing'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Actor Ashley Hamilton and singer Macy Gray are leaving the "Dancing With the Stars" ballroom.

On Wednesday, they became the first contestants to be eliminated on the ninth season of the ABC dance-off.

Hamilton, 34, had hoped to follow the footsteps of his father, George Hamilton, a previous competitor on the program. But the younger Hamilton and his professional partner, Edyta Sliwinska, failed to make it past the first foxtrot. They came into Wednesday's results show tied for last place with just 19 points out of 40.

Judge Bruno Tonioli said Hamilton's performance suffered from a "total lack of showmanship."

Hamilton said he was happy just to have had a chance to dance. "It's been a blast," he said. "I've had a great partner and it was a great experience."

Gray also scored 19 points for her two dances Tuesday. Judges admired her unique take on the Viennese waltz—"It was beautiful in its own bizarre way," judge Carrie Ann Inaba said—but Gray and professional partner Jonathan Roberts still landed in last place.

AP

In this Oct. 19, 2008 file photo, recording artist Macy Gray attends the BlackBerry Storm party held in the Hollywood area of Los Angeles.

Viewer votes are combined with judges' scores to determine which contestants are eliminated each week. The 42-year-old Grammy winner said she "had a good time" on the show.

"Ballroom isn't my calling exactly, but I learned a little bit," she said.

'Survivor' winner Hatch to stay in jail for now

AP

In this Jan. 24, 2006 file photo, Richard Hatch, who won the first "Survivor" television program, departs federal court in Providence, R.I.

BOSTON (AP)—"Survivor" winner Richard Hatch will stay behind bars for now.

A federal judge Wednesday denied Hatch's request to serve the remaining weeks of his sentence for tax evasion in home confinement. The judge also said prison officials can discipline Hatch by taking away nine days of good time. That means he won't get out until Oct. 16.

Hatch was convicted of failing to pay taxes on his $1 million prize as the winner of the debut season of the CBS reality show.

He had been serving the final portion of his 51-month sentence in home confinement at his sister's house in Newport, R.I., when he was sent back to jail last month for giving what prison officials said were unauthorized media interviews.

Hatch claimed the Federal Bureau of Prisons was retaliating against him after he criticized the prosecutor and judge in his case during three interviews. Prison officials say Hatch was only authorized to give one interview.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts asked the judge to release him and let him finish his sentence in home confinement.

Judge Nathaniel Gorton ruled Wednesday that Hatch violated Bureau of Prison rules and must remain in federal custody at the Barnstable County jail in Bourne, Mass.

"The court finds that Hatch was, in fact, prohibited from contacting the media without prior authorization and, therefore, was not arbitrarily punished for doing so," Gorton wrote in his ruling.

The ACLU said it was disappointed with the ruling.

"We understood that there might be valid security concerns when you're talking about a prison facility where you can't have the media coming in, but that's not the case when you're dealing with someone in home confinement," said spokesman Christopher Ott.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Ellen Pompeo gives birth to daughter Stella Luna

NEW YORK (AP)—"Grey's Anatomy" star Ellen Pompeo has given birth to a daughter. Pompeo's representative, Amanda Silverman, says Stella Luna Pompeo Ivery was born Sept. 15. No other details are available. She is the first child for Pompeo and her record producer-husband, Chris Ivery. The couple tied the knot in 2007 after three years of dating. The 39-year-old actress plays Dr. Meredith Grey on the ABC series.

Giant cannon, big red blob in Kapoor's London show

LONDON (AP)—A giant cannon that fires gruesome-looking globs of red wax into a white wall is one of the highlights of an exhibition by Turner Prize-winning artist Anish Kapoor opening this week in London. The British capital's Royal Academy of Arts is hosting a solo exhibition of the Indian-born Kapoor's large-scale and often bizarre-looking work. One piece, "Svayambh," features a block of crimson wax that inches along a set of tracks, squeezing through the classical doorways of the academy and leaving a viscous, blood-like residue throughout the building. Another, called "Slug," is a giant writhing wormlike form attached to what looks like a gaping red mouth. Huge distorting mirrors also feature. The exhibition opens to the public on Saturday.

Kiss, Chili Peppers, LL Cool J nominated for hall

NEW YORK (AP)—Kiss, LL Cool J and the Red Hot Chili Peppers could be among next year's inductees at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. They are part of an eclectic group of 12 acts in contention for the 2010 class. Other first-time nominees include Genesis, Jimmy Cliff, The Hollies and songwriter Laura Nyro. Some of the names on the ballot have been there before—Donna Summer, Darlene Love, ABBA, the Chantels, and the Stooges. Only five acts make it in. The 25th annual induction ceremony is slated for March 15 in New York City. The inductees will be announced in December.

New Michael Jackson song to be released

NEW YORK (AP)—The first posthumous release of a new Michael Jackson song, "This Is It," is scheduled for Oct. 12. Sony Music Entertainment offered few details about the song, except to say it includes backing vocals by Jackson's brothers. Two weeks later, Sony is releasing a two-disc set to coincide with the movie that shows scenes of Jackson rehearsing for his series of London concerts. Jackson died before publicly stepping back on stage. The album includes some of Jackson's greatest hits as they appeared on previous albums. The second disc features previously unreleased versions of Jackson songs and a spoken-word poem from Jackson called "Planet Earth."

Tom Brady declines comment on $1M lawsuit

FOXBOROUGH, Massachusetts (AP)—NFL pro football star Tom Brady isn't commenting about a lawsuit against him and his Brazilian supermodel wife Gisele Bundchen. Two photographers sued Brady and Bundchen for $1 million on Tuesday, saying they were shot at during a post-wedding party in Costa Rica in April. Asked at his New England Patriots locker Wednesday if he had any comment on the lawsuit, Brady smiled and said, "No. I got no reaction to that one." In the lawsuit, Yuri Cortez of AFP and Rolando Aviles of Costa Rican national daily newspaper Al Dia allege that Bundchen's bodyguards narrowly missed their heads when they shot at their car after they refused to give up their cameras and memory cards. The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court in Manhattan. No one was struck by the bullets.

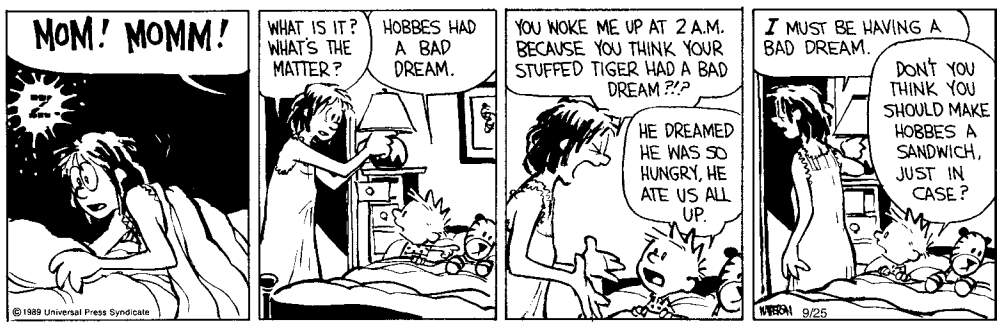
Wayne Newton back for limited run on Vegas Strip

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Singer Wayne Newton plans to come back to the Las Vegas Strip to celebrate a 50-year career. Officials for the Tropicana Las Vegas hotel-casino said Wednesday that the 67-year-old "Danke Schoen" crooner plans start a limited run next month. The show, titled "Once Before I Go," is billed as a look back at Newton's career and life story. Newton says in a statement that the show is exciting and artistically challenging, and "the kind of show I've always wanted to do." In addition to stints at various Las Vegas casinos, Newton toured Australia in 2006 and also appeared on ABC's "Dancing with the Stars."

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


MOM! MOMM!
Z-
WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S THE MATTER?
HOBBES HAD A BAD DREAM.
YOU WOKE ME UP AT 2 A.M. BECAUSE YOU THINK YOUR STUFFED TIGER HAD A BAD DREAM?!?
HE DREAMED HE WAS SO HUNGRY, HE ATE US ALL UP.
I MUST BE HAVING A BAD DREAM.
DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD MAKE HOBBES A SANDWICH, JUST IN CASE?
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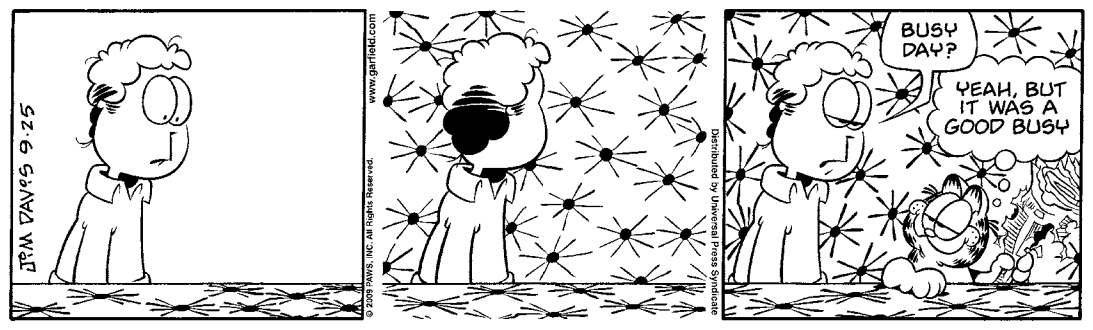
WATTERSON 9/25

Garfield®

By Jim Davis


JIM DAVIS 9-25
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BUSY DAY?
YEAH, BUT IT WAS A GOOD BUSY

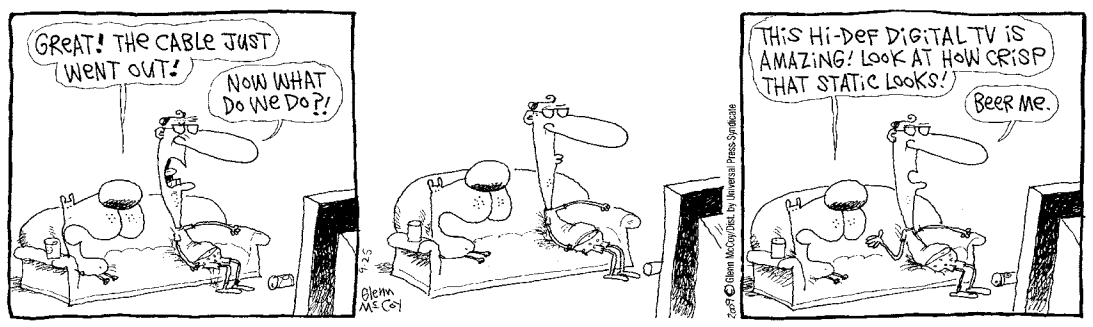
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

ALMOST THERE. HERE'S THE PARKING LOT.
PARKING
HOW MUCH?
$25.
$$
WHAT THE? FOR PARKING? DOES IT COME WITH A STEAK? THAT'S JUST ROBBERY.
THAT'S NOTHING. WAIT 'TIL YOU BUY THE T-SHIRT.
$$
4-25
© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.gocomics.com
HONEY, WE HAVE A CHOICE TO MAKE... DO YOU WANT TO GO TO COLLEGE OR GET A JONAS BROTHERS HOODED SWEATSHIRT?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


GREAT! THE CABLE JUST WENT OUT!
NOW WHAT DO WE DO?!
9-25
Glenn McCoy
THIS HI-DEF DIGITAL TV IS AMAZING! LOOK AT HOW CRISP THAT STATIC LOOKS!
BEER ME.
© Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Picks out of a lineup
4 Ship's front
8 Wild party
12 Plaything
13 Green land
14 Curved molding
15 "Wow!"
17 Traditional tales
18 Versifier
19 Constitutional
20 Orated
22 Overcast
24 Ponder
25 "Wow!"
29 Swiss canton
30 Huffs and puffs
31 Born
32 "Wow!"
34 Unescorted
35 Unpaid bill
36 Illinois city
37 Bake eggs
40 Perry Mason portrayer
41 Mexican entree
42 "Wow!"
46 Detail
47 Squirrels' hangouts
48 "That's funny!" to a texter
49 Cincinnati team
50 Genealogy chart
51 Sweet potato

DOWN
1 Judge Lance
2 Homer's interjection
3 Formal discussions
4 Small flycatcher
5 Laugh-a-minute
6 Bobby of hockey
7 Become one
8 Anne who married Henry VIII
9 More than enthusiastic
10 Antitoxins
11 Command to Fido
16 Oxen's binder
19 Young blokes
20 Too confident
21 Engine noise
22 Leave
23 Tiers
25 Amorphous mass
26 In toto
27 Burn somewhat
28 Lily variety
30 Coffin support
33 File holders
34 Ganges wrap
36 Talk a blue streak?
37 Use a teaspoon
38 Loathe
39 On the rocks
40 Prepare a casserole
42 Braille component
43 Anvil's site
44 Extinct New Zealander
45 Shade provider

Solution time: 25 mins.

C	H	A	D	■	I	R	K	■	R	I	C	O
L	E	V	I	■	M	O	I	■	A	C	I	D
E	R	O	S	■	P	E	T	■	D	E	A	D
F	O	N	D	U	E	■	C	L	A	W	■	■
■	■	■	A	L	L	T	H	E	R	A	G	E
P	O	S	I	T	■	H	E	N	■	T	A	D
I	V	A	N	■	P	U	N	■	L	E	W	D
T	A	I	■	A	R	M	■	P	E	R	K	Y
A	L	L	T	H	E	B	E	S	T	■	■	■
■	■	B	E	A	T	■	R	I	T	U	A	L
O	B	O	E	■	Z	O	O	■	I	S	L	E
L	O	A	N	■	E	N	D	■	N	E	T	S
D	O	T	S	■	L	E	E	■	G	R	A	S

Yesterday's answer 9-25

1	2	3	■	4	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12			■	13				■	14			
15			16					■	17			
■	■	18				■	■	19				
20	21				■	22	23			■	■	■
24				■	25					26	27	28
29			■	30					■	31		
32			33					■	34			
■	■	■	35				■	36				
37	38	39			■	■	40				■	■
41				■	42	43					44	45
46					47				■	48		
49				■	50				■	51		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Catherine Zeta-Jones, 40; Will Smith, 41; Scottie Pippen, 44; Heather Locklear, 48

Happy Birthday: Get involved with people and things that have meaning for you. Let the old, outdated and impossible people and pastimes go. This is a time to reach your own goals. Accomplishing your goals will lead to peace of mind. If you feel good about who and where you are in life, you will do well in the future. Your numbers are 5, 7, 18, 24, 27, 36, 41

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): If someone is giving you a difficult time, acknowledge the problem but don't fight back. Find a suitable solution when you are in a better position to address this situation. Spend time developing something worth your while. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't be fooled by someone trying to divert you from following through with a plan or endeavor that is good for you. Jealousy may be causing the conflict. An investment in something you believe in will be worth every penny you spend. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): An event you attend may lead to emotional confusion. Expect to be caught in the act if you are too flirtatious. A change of heart may be what's causing your indiscretion. Rethink your current situation. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't worry about being drawn into something that may be different from what you are used to. The change will do you good and introduce you to people who can enrich your life. It's time to make some personal changes. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Before you jump into something based on your emotions, consider the consequences. Temptation is apparent and, if you give in, you will have regrets. Nothing is as it appears even if you desperately feel like being adventuresome and playful. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Make your decisions based on your needs, not someone else's. If you aren't happy with your choices you will have difficulty getting along with the people you deal with most. Volunteering your services will lead to something tangible in the future. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take one of your ideas that you think is trendy yet serviceable and develop it. You will get interest if you present what you want to do to someone with a suitable outlet. A friendship that develops may not be as good for you as you first thought. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Staying cooped up at home will lead to disgruntled behavior. You need a change of scenery, friends or activities to feel alive and to jumpstart your creativity. A trip can help you find peace of mind. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Stay on top of personal matters. You can easily give someone the wrong impression if you are too flirtatious. A change in your current status is likely to leave you wondering what to do next. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Complete deals and meet deadlines and you can ease your stress and settle a pending situation. You can make a difference to someone incapable of doing something alone. Your money management skills can help you build greater assets. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You are better off waiting for others to make the first move. If you think big and act fast, you will have regrets. Don't let anyone talk you into giving, donating or helping a cause you know little about. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You'll be caught in the middle if you meddle. You may want to help out or feel compelled to get involved in something that doesn't concern you but, if you do, there will be no turning back. Focus on fun not interfering. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensible, smart and dedicated to family. You are critical, hard-working and willing to fight for your beliefs.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			9	4	8	5	7	3
				6	1	8		
			5					
		7						4
	8						2	
1						6		
					6			
		9	2	8				
2	6	4	3	9	7			

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	8	2	1	9	3	7	5	6
9	7	3	4	5	6	2	8	1
5	1	6	2	7	8	3	9	4
7	6	4	5	8	1	9	3	2
1	3	5	6	2	9	8	4	7
2	9	8	3	4	7	1	6	5
6	2	9	7	3	4	5	1	8
8	4	7	9	1	5	6	2	3
3	5	1	8	6	2	4	7	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/24

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

GARLIC POWDER **Solution: 6 letters**

M	M	D	R	D	S	R	E	G	N	I	G	N	G	E
I	I	E	E	E	A	C	F	S	G	R	O	U	N	D
L	E	X	A	N	T	L	E	D	A	O	L	H	I	N
L	L	T	T	T	O	S	A	N	P	U	A	D	P	U
E	K	R	U	U	S	S	U	S	T	N	C	R	P	O
D	N	A	R	C	R	L	A	L	C	E	A	E	O	P
E	I	C	E	S	A	E	L	E	C	T	D	S	T	M
T	R	T	M	T	T	E	M	L	S	S	D	S	O	O
A	P	E	E	D	M	E	O	E	D	A	I	I	N	C
R	S	D	D	S	N	V	N	D	A	T	T	N	I	H
G	Y	I	Y	T	E	E	O	C	S	L	I	G	C	O
R	D	B	T	S	N	O	L	P	H	L	V	A	O	P
O	R	L	V	O	F	A	I	B	B	R	E	H	L	P
W	A	E	K	O	O	C	L	R	N	O	I	N	O	E
S	H	F	I	N	E	S	E	P	I	C	E	R	R	D

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Acute, Additive, Blend, Chopped, Cloves, Cluster, Color, Compound, Cook, Dash, Dressing, Edible, Enhancement, Extract, Fine, Food, Ginger, Granulated, Grated, Ground, Grow, Hardy, Herb, Load, Meal, Meats, Milled, Mixture, Onion, Plant, Recipes, Remedy, Salad, Salt, Sauce, Scented, Seasoned, Smell, Spice, Sprinkle, Stench, Taste, Teaspoon, Tonic, Topping

Yesterday s Answer: Reminder

We listened to your requests! **TREASURY #6** is the first-ever Wonderword book containing only 20 x 20 puzzles, with 75 of these large puzzles. To order, send check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 p&h (S14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Wonderword, Universal Press Syndicate, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
ADS (7DAYS)	
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

S UCKER
SU CKER
SUCK ER
SUCKE R

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Find today's solution in this section

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening date: September 18, 2009 **Closing date: October 23, 2009**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancies:

1 (one) Executive Director
1 (one) Staff Engineer

Employment Application must be accompanied with a first copy of all required diploma/certificates, original copy of recent police record not more that six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 26 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, October 23, 2009.***

Minimum Qualifications:

Executive Director: Possess a four (4) year degree from an accredited U.S. University with no less than ten (10) years of progressively responsible experience in either of the following field: management, engineering, financial, aviation and/or maritime industry. Must have managerial and leadership experience acceptable to the Board of Directors.

Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction from any jurisdiction.

Staff Engineering: Possess a four (4) year degree in civil engineering from an accredited U.S. university with no less than seven (7) years of progressively responsible experience in a professional engineering level of which three (3) years pertain to supervisory experience.

Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction from any jurisdiction.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing, or may be downloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp. For more information, please contact the Executive Director by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ **EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.**
Executive Director

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for Used Car, Good running condition. We pay CASH! Please call 287-7676.

WANTED
COOK
(able to work independently)
FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT
Please call 234-8193
PIERRE'S RESTAURANT

DRUNK DRIVING
Over the limit.Under arrest.

D. Rik & Janel Villegas
P.O. Box 7867
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 235-7458

pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE PETITION TO APPOINT GENERAL GUARDIANSHIP FOR :	FCD GU Civil Action No. 09-0538
HUANG, GUANGHUI, Minor Child, By: DANEIL RIK VILLEGAS, and FLOYE JANEL VILLEGAS, Petitoners.	NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on October 5, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Govendo.

Dated this 23rd day of September, 2009.

/s/ Bernadita Sablan
Clerk of Court

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated Bldg. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Backup generator. Free Wi-Fi. EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Oceanview & Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WHATZIT Solution:
Never give a sucker an even break

NOTICE

CAMACHO INVESTMENT CORPORATION conducts a business engaged in dba—Summer Holiday Hotel, (the SELLER), at Alaihai Street, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950. **CAMACHO INVESTMENT CORPORATION** has contracted to sell to **U.S. SAIPAN CHINA HOTEL CO., LTD.**, (the BUYER), in whole, the following:

- all Summer Holiday Hotel property, assets and undertakings owned by Camacho Investment Corporation;
- the good will of Summer Holiday Hotel; and
- all further business of Summer Holiday Hotel from the date of this Notice.

Pursuant to applicable Commonwealth law, the SELLER hereby gives notice that:

The business hereto conducted under the assumed name of SUMMER HOLIDAY HOTEL has been fully sold to the BUYER, which includes the property, assets and undertakings of Summer Holiday Hotel, owned by Camacho Investment Corporation, and

The SELLER is no longer engaged in the said business, and

The BUYER is engaged in said business, and

Any and or all person(s) or entity(ies) of the SELLER of said business having any claims or interests against the SELLER of said business are hereby required to send within 30 calendar days of the date of this Notice, particulars of such claims or interests to the undersigned agent for the SELLER, as follows:

Camacho Investment Corporation
c/o Mr. Juan C. Camacho, President
PO Box 500908 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

And Notice is hereby further given that after 30 calendar days from the date of this Notice, any and or all claims will be barred if not received by said deadline.

SELLER:

/s/ Juan C. Camacho, President
CAMACHO INVESTMENT CORP.

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DLNR09-IFB- 150

SMILING COVE MARINA REHABILITATION PROJECT SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Lands and Natural Resources and its Division of Fish and Wildlife, are soliciting sealed bids for the Smiling Cove Marina Rehabilitation Project, Saipan. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (**CNMI**).

The project package consisting of plans, specifications, and bid documents will be available on or after September 11, 2009. Interested bidders should obtain the project package at the Pacific Quick Print & Post, located along Middle Road in Garapan, Saipan. The project package shall be released upon payment of the copying cost for each set, non-refundable amount to be determined, to Pacific Quick Print & Post. Interested bidders must provide a photocopy of the project package payment receipt in its bid. Any bids submitted without a photocopy of the payment receipt shall be rejected and not considered. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further **Amended by Public Law 15-118** and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on September 30, 2009, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Division of Fish and Wildlife conference room. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the Invitation for Bids before submitting a bid. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on October 7, 2009 to **Mr. Sylvan O. Igisomar**, Director of Fish and Wildlife, Lower Base, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-6060 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time, October 7, 2009.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DLNR09-IFB-150"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time on October 22, 2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time on October 22, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 22, 2009, and must be received no later than November 2, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:30 a.m. local time on November 6, 2009. However, if no notices of Intent to Bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on October 27, 2009.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". The surety company shall hold a Certificate of Authority (COA) from the U.S. Department of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. If a bid bond is submitted, it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must hold a Certificate of Authority (COA) from the U.S. Department of Treasury as an acceptable surety and must be authorized to conduct business in CNMI.

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Sixty One (**161**) working days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at Four Hundred dollars (**US$400.00**) per working day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ DR. IGNACIO T. DELA CRUZ, DVM
Secretary, Department of Lands and Natural Resources

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement and Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PSS RFP 09-023

GRANTS WRITING SERVICES FOR THE CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting proposals from qualified individuals or firms to help write, edit and review grants and grant reports for a variety of grants.

Beginning September 25, 2009 the Scope of Work and related information is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950. Requests faxed to 664-3791 will also be entertained.

A Pre-Proposal Meeting will be held at 10:00 Am, October 14, 2009 in the Commissioner of Education's Conference Room on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building.

Proposals shall be placed in a sealed envelope marked **"RFP 09-023—"Grants Writing Services"** containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than 10:30 AM on October 20, 2009. Any proposal submitted after this date and time will not be accepted.

Questions shall be in writing and addressed to Tim Thornburgh, Federal Programs Officer, via fax to 664.3767 or e-mailed to thornburght@gmail.com.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Robert Florian
P&S Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW09-IFB-032

NASA PLACE ASPHALT PAVING, SAIPAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Nasa Place Asphalt Paving, Susupe, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on or after September 18, 2009 at DPW Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor-Joeten Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars **($US100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Preference is available to US Citizen as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118. Prospective bidders claiming for US Citizen Preference are required to submit *P&S Form 100 (Revised 12/20/07)* with their sealed bids.

A Pre-bid Conference is scheduled for October 07, 2009, 1:00 p.m. local time at the project site located at Nasa Place, in Susupe.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that the full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr., Director of Technical Services Division**, Suite 212, Joeten-Oleai Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who have obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgement of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/38 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW09-IFB-032"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, October 19, 2009. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, October 19, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 19, 2009, and must be received no later than October 28, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, November 02, 2009. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a. m. local time, on October 22, 2009.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **A surety company shall hold the Certificate of Authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General and must accompany the bid.** Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with NMIAC §70-30.3-301 of the Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Department of Treasury as an acceptable surety and must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty **(120)** working days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at Five Hundred Dollars **(US$500.00)** per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

This project is funded Saipan Local Law 15-12.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

VICENTE T. SALAS
Law Office of Vicente T. Salas
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

F. MATTHEW SMITH
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,
vs.
ANTONIO S. CAMACHO, ELPHIDIA MSP. CAMACHO, and CNMI DIVISION OF REVENUE AND TAXATION, Defendants.

) Civil Action No. 04-0588C

NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, here-inafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, here-inafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Antonio S. Camacho and Elphidia MSP. Camacho, jointly and severally, in the following described, lease of real property situated at the Commercial Port of Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

25 Year Ground Lease (File No. 88-348)
- Dated November 25, 1986
- Between Antonio Salas Camacho and the Commonwealth Ports Authority
- Of that certain tract parcel of land situated at the Commercial Port, designated as **Lot no. 032 E 03**, containing an area of 5,043 square meters (54,264.176 square feet), including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

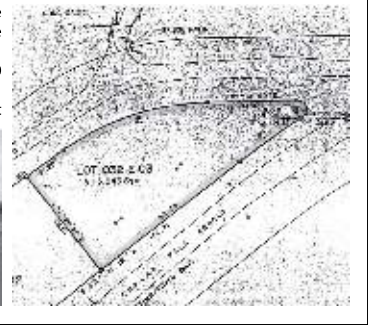
The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, September 25, 2009**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conduction the auction:
   a. To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject , on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit: Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price musb be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. **Bidders are cautioned to inspect the lease, title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the Defendants Antonio S. Camacho and Elphedia MSP Camacho in the lease and property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the lease or real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 28th day of August, 2009.

/s/ **SANTIAGO F. TUDELA**, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

Legal Description	Lot 032 E 03	**Utilities Available**	Power, Water, Telephone, Sewer, Cable
Total Land Area	5,043 sqm	**Highest & Best Use as Improved**	Continued Industrial Use
Location	Puerto Rico, Lower Base	**Concluded Final Leasehold Value Estimate**	$178,000.00
Zoning	Industrial	**Rights Appraised**	Leasehold Interest



Yankees edge Angels 3-2 to win series

ANAHEIM, California (AP)—A.J. Burnett struck out 11 in just his second win since July as the New York Yankees won a series at Anaheim for the first time since 2004 with a 3-2 victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Wednesday.

A day after the Yankees became the first major league team to clinch a playoff berth, Robinson Cano hit a two-run single, and Melky Cabrera followed with an RBI double in the fourth inning for New York.

Burnett (12-9) allowed seven hits and three walks in 5 2-3 innings.

Scott Kazmir (9-9) took the loss, while Gary Matthews Jr. and Bobby Abreu drove in runs for the Angels.

AP

New York Yankees starting pitcher A.J. Burnett wipes his face during the fourth inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Angels in Anaheim, Calif., on Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009.

Rangers 9, Athletics 8

At Oakland, Hank Blalock homered and drove in four runs to lead Texas.

David Murphy and Marlon Byrd both had two RBIs as the Rangers won for the third time in 10 games. Nelson Cruz drove in a run for Texas, which trails Boston by seven games for the AL wild card and first-place Los Angeles by 6 1/2 in the AL West.

Eric Patterson hit a home run and Cliff Pennington drove in two runs for the A's, who lost for the third time in 11 games.

Tigers 11, Indians 3

At Cleveland, Carlos Guillen hit two of Detroit's three home runs as the Tigers sent Cleveland to its season-high 10th straight loss.

Rick Porcello (14-9) allowed one run and six hits over five innings as the Tigers won their third straight.

Guillen hit a two-run homer in the third off Justin Masterson (4-9) and connected off Mike Gosling to make it 9-1 in the fifth. It was the fourth time in his career the switch-hitter went deep from both sides and his seventh multi-homer game overall.

Miguel Cabrera had a two-run homer, a 440-foot shot into the bleachers in left-center in the fourth, for Detroit.

Red Sox 9, Royals 2

At Kansas City, David Ortiz homered and drove in four runs, and Josh Beckett allowed two runs over six innings to lift Boston.

Jason Bay and Jacoby Ellsbury each drove in two runs and Ortiz had a run-scoring single in Boston's six-run fifth inning off Luke Hochevar (7-11). Ortiz added his 25th homer in the eighth, a three-run shot off Carlos Rosa.

Beckett (16-6) limited the damage from 12 hits with seven strikeouts, improving to 5-0 with a 2.03 ERA in seven career starts against Kansas City.

Yuniesky Betancourt had a run-scoring triple among his three hits and Mitch Maier also had three hits for the Royals, who stranded 12 runners to see their six-game home winning streak end.

Blue Jays 7, Orioles 3

At Toronto, Travis Snider homered and had two RBIs and Scott Richmond won for the first time since June 24 as Toronto completed a three-game sweep.

Baltimore lost its season-high seventh straight and lost for the eighth time in nine games in Toronto this season.

Richmond (7-10) allowed three runs and five hits in five innings to win for the first time in 10 starts.

Jeremy Guthrie (10-16) allowed seven runs, five earned, and eight hits in seven-plus innings.

Rays 5, Mariners 4

At St. Petersburg, Florida, B.J. Upton had three RBIs, including a go-ahead two-run single in the eighth for Tampa Bay.

The Rays loaded the bases on a single and two walks with one out against Mark Lowe (2-7) in the eighth and Upton gave the Rays a 5-4 lead on his single to left.

Akinori Iwamura had two RBIs for the Rays, the defending American League champions who were eliminated from playoff contention on Tuesday.

Ichiro Suzuki hit an RBI single and Franklin Gutierrez had a run-scoring grounder to put Seattle ahead 3-0 in the fifth.

Twins 8, White Sox 6

At Chicago, Brian Duensing won his fifth straight decision as Minnesota won for the ninth time in 10 games.

Nick Punto had three RBIs as the Twins completed a three-game sweep and remained 2 1/2 games behind first-place Detroit in the AL Central.

Jermaine Dye, who entered the game in a 12-for-93 slump, had two homers for Chicago, the first breaking a 58 at-bat homerless streak.

Duensing (5-1), who is 5-0 in his last seven starts, gave up nine hits and four runs—three earned—in 5 2-3 innings. Joe Nathan, the Twins' fourth reliever, pitched a shaky ninth for his 44th save.

The Twins, who scored 23 runs in the three-game series, knocked out Chicago ace Mark Buehrle (12-10) after 3 1-3 innings. Buehrle, 1-7 in 12 starts since pitching a perfect game on July 23, gave up eight hits and was charged with five runs, four earned.

Astros 3, Cardinals 0

At Houston, Bud Norris went six innings in Houston's victory over St. Louis to end a nine-game losing streak and deprive the Cardinals a chance to win the NL Central title.

The magic number for St. Louis dropped to one when Chicago lost in Milwaukee before this game ended. But Norris (6-3) didn't allow St. Louis to score for the second straight outing and Jose Valverde pitched the ninth for his 28th save.

St. Louis can clinch the division on Thursday, a day off, if the Cubs lose the opener of a weekend series in San Francisco.

Carlos Lee drove in two runs for the Astros.

John Smoltz (1-2) gave up two runs and five hits in six innings, but the Cardinals had only seven hits after getting 15 in each of the first two games in Houston.

Giants 5, Diamondbacks 2

At Phoenix, Juan Uribe hit a two-run homer and drove in three runs as the Giants gained a game in the NL wild-card race with a 5-2 victory over Arizona.

San Francisco remained in a tie with Atlanta, four games behind wild card leader Colorado with 10 games to play. Florida is 4Ω games back.

Uribe's homer off Arizona starter Kevin Mulvey (0-2) in the sixth inning was his 14th of the season and gave the Giants a 3-0 lead. He also had an RBI double in the second.

Padres 6, Rockies 3

At Denver, Will Venable homered and tied a career high by driving in four runs in San Diego's win that snapped Colorado's eight-game home winning streak.

The Rockies' lead in the NL wild-card race was whittled to four games over Atlanta.

Venable hit a solo homer in the second, his 12th, and added a three-run double in the fifth off Jason Marquis.

Brewers 3, Cubs 2

At Milwaukee, Prince Fielder hit his 42nd homer to give him a majors-best 131 RBIs and Milwaukee rookie Chris Narveson struck out 10 for his first win as a starter.

Jody Gerut homered for the Brewers, who avoided a three-game sweep. Chicago is still mathematically alive since St. Louis lost, but the Cardinals now have a magic number of one for the NL Central title.

Narveson (2-0) was designated for assignment by the Brewers in July, but returned last month and was sharp into the sixth inning in his third career start. Narveson's only mistake came when Cubs starter Jeff Samardzija (1-3) led off the sixth inning with a homer, his first career hit.

Marlins 7, Phillies 6

At Miami, pinch-hitter Brett Carroll capped a two-run rally against closer Brad Lidge in the ninth inning with an RBI single to give Florida the victory.

Jorge Cantu tied it with a single off Lidge (0-8), who blew his major league-leading 11th save.

Dan Meyer (3-1) pitched an inning of scoreless relief for the win.

Ryan Howard doubled, homered and drove in four runs for the Phillies, whose magic number to clinch the NL East remained at five.

Nationals 5, Dodgers 4

At Washington, Los Angeles' Andre Ethier hit pinch-hitter Pete Orr's fly ball to right field in the ninth inning, allowing Justin Maxwell to score, as the Nationals averted their 100th loss.

Maxwell started the rally with a single off James McDonald (5-5). Maxwell was sacrificed to second and stole third before Jorge Padilla walked. Orr, who was 2 for 13 as a pinch-hitter, hit a fly to medium right and the ball bounced off Ethier's glove as he backtracked and Maxwell scored.

Braves 5, Mets 2

At New York, Tim Hudson pitched six effective innings for his second win since major elbow surgery as Atlanta completed a three-game sweep.

Hours after announcing Bobby Cox will retire as manager following next season, the Braves won for the 11th time in 13 games. Clinging to scant playoff hopes, Atlanta began the day five games behind Colorado for the NL wild card.

Adam LaRoche had three hits and two RBIs and late substitute Kelly Johnson knocked in two runs for the Braves, who won their seventh straight road game.

Reds 12, Pirates 2

At Pittsburgh, Joey Votto went 4 for 5 and scored three runs and Homer Bailey allowed two runs in six innings for Cincinnati.

Brandon Phillips, Scott Rolen, Jay Bruce, Laynce Nix and Corky Miller all had two RBIs for the Reds, who have won seven of nine.

The Pirates have won only three of their last 25 matches and allowed 33 runs in the past three games.

Cox to retire as Braves manager after next season

NEW YORK (AP)—After 50 years in baseball, Bobby Cox figured the only way he would ever give up managing was to pick a specific time and announce it publicly.

So that's what he did Wednesday, revealing his plans to retire as manager of the Atlanta Braves after next season.

Now comes the hard part: sticking to it.

"There is a little bit of relief once you come to grips with announcing it," Cox said. "I've never lost the love to manage, period. But you have to make a decision. At my age, you have to make a decision. Somebody a little younger can start up."

The 68-year-old Cox, a four-time Manager of the Year, agreed to a one-year contract extension for 2010, the Braves announced before Wednesday night's game against the New York Mets. He will start a five-year consulting agreement to advise the team in baseball operations after he steps down as manager.

"I'll believe it when I see it," Braves slugger Chipper Jones said.

During an illustrious career on the bench, Cox has guided Atlanta to 14 consecutive postseason appearances (1991-2005) and the 1995 World Series title.

"They asked me to come back, and I said I would do it for one more year, and we'll announce the retirement along with it. It's the only way I think I'm ever going to walk away from the game, is to go ahead and say I'm going to, and then I've got to," Cox said. "There's no turning back now—win, lose or draw. Whatever happens next year is going to be it."

A cigar-smoking baseball lifer, Cox managed the Braves from 1978-81, switched to manage the Toronto Blue Jays from 1982-85, then returned to manage Atlanta in 1990. He led the Braves to five NL pennants and a record 14 straight division titles from 1991-2005.

"He's one of the greatest—not only managers, but people," Los Angeles Dodgers manager Joe Torre said in Washington. "He's a Hall of Famer."

Cox began Wednesday with 2,408 regular-season wins as a manager, fourth behind Connie Mack (3,731), John McGraw (2,763) and Tony La Russa (2,550). Cox and Joe McCarthy are the only managers with six 100-win regular seasons.

Favre says NFL fines for Jets 'very unfair'

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP)—Brett Favre said Wednesday he believes the fines handed down by the NFL for his absence from last year's New York Jets injury reports were "very unfair."

Favre was asked by reporters for the first time about the $125,000 in penalties levied on the Jets organization ($75,000), general manager Mike Tannenbaum ($25,000), and former head coach Eric Mangini ($25,000).

"I just think it's wrong," Favre said. "They did everything that I felt they were supposed to."

Favre earlier this month revealed the process he and the Jets went through in assessing the health of his throwing arm last December. He played through a torn biceps tendon, and his performance suffered. The NFL investigated and announced the fines last week for Mangini's failure to list Favre on the injury report.

Favre said he discussed his condition with the Jets last year because he wanted the team to know he wasn't at his best.

"I felt like maybe there were some throws where I could've played better because of this injury," Favre said. "I just wanted to let them know that. I never asked them to put me on the injury report. I can't tell you how many times I probably should've been on the injury report. I practiced. I played. I knew I was going to play.

"I wanted them to know that I wasn't too proud to play just to play."

Favre said he told Tannenbaum and Mangini, who now coaches the Browns, that he was sorry about the way the season went sour. Favre led the Jets to an 8-3 start and first place in the AFC East, but he threw nine interceptions down the stretch and the team lost four of its last five games to miss the playoffs.

Favre retired, was released by the Jets, then came back for a second time to join the Vikings.

The NFL has stepped up policing of the injury report, and the penalties for the Jets were an opportunity for the league to stress the importance of following the rules. Tannenbaum acknowledged recently that Favre should have been listed as "probable" down the stretch.

Favre last week set what the NFL believes to be the all-time record for consecutive games started, with 271. He hurt both hands in that game against the Detroit Lions, including the nail on his right thumb being bent all the way back.

"It doesn't feel good, but that was it," Favre said. "It was a pretty good shot I took, but that was it."

Yao encouraged by recovery

HOUSTON (AP)—Encouraged by progress in his recovery from major foot surgery, Yao Ming said Wednesday he will return to action—just not next season.

"The (X-ray) picture looks good. The bones heal well," he said in an interview with Houston television station KRIV.

He also said, however, that there is no chance that he will play in the 2009-10 NBA season.

"The answer is no. You don't want to rush it, because they want it to totally heal this time. I have been in this situation enough," he said.

The 7-foot-6 center underwent surgery in May to repair a hairline fracture in his left foot suffered late in a May 8 playoff game against the Los Angeles Lakers. The injury had raised questions, especially in his native China, about Yao's playing future.

On Wednesday, he said he expects his career will take on new life.

"I am able to play again," he said.

However, there may be a change in the style of his play.

"Obviously, I want to play basketball. This is my life right there," he said. "But for long term, believe me for long term, I need to slow down."

Yao had the hard cast removed from his left leg on Friday, and his leg and foot were placed in an orthopedic boot. He said he works out three times a week, but the boot on his leg limits what he can do.

NFL *has no plans to lighten blackout rules*

NEW YORK (AP)—When Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans, the NFL waived its television blackout policy so Saints fans could watch even if games moved to Baton Rouge didn't sell out.

Now, under extraordinary circumstances of a different sort—a recession that has made football tickets an unaffordable luxury for many—the league isn't budging.

The NFL says it has no plans to lift its blackout rules because of the economy. So if games don't sell out—as could be the case in up to three cities this weekend—local fans won't be able to watch on TV, whether at home or in a bar.

"People are quick to say, 'Can you make an exception here?'" said Howard Katz, the league's senior vice president for broadcasting and media operations. "We're trying to be really cautious and make sure we do the right thing for long-term growth."

He acknowledged tickets are steep—an average of $74.99 this season—and times are hard. "To the person who lost his or her job in Detroit, this is every bit as difficult a situation to deal with as Katrina might have been in New Orleans," Katz said.

But he argued it's impossible to know how each fan arrives at the decision to buy a ticket or not and said the blackout policy is crucial to filling stadiums.

Under the rule, a game must be sold out 72 hours in advance before it may be aired in any TV market within 75 miles of the stadium. Club seats and suites don't count in the equation.

In this season's opening week, Arizona, Cincinnati and Oakland needed 24-hour extensions from the NFL to sell out their games and avoid blackouts. Detroit and San Diego did the same for Week 2.

Thus far, only the Jaguars have had a game blacked out. They were so far from selling out 67,164-seat Jacksonville Municipal Stadium last weekend they didn't even bother requesting an extension.

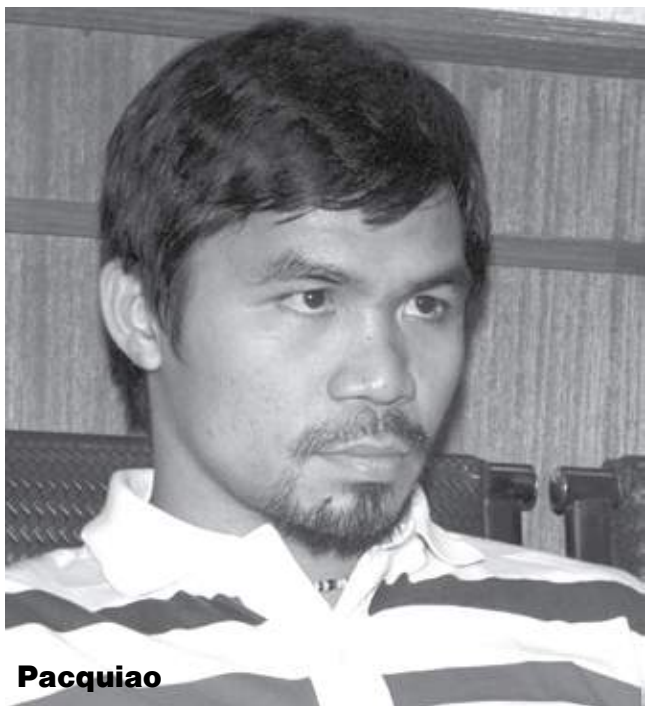
Detroit, Oakland and San Diego could be in danger of blackouts this weekend.

The NFL is allowing fans whose local teams' games are blacked out to watch replays online for free—though not until after midnight. Fans will be able to view the delayed broadcasts on NFL.com for 72 hours, except during "Monday Night Football."

Blackouts could become a much bigger issue this season than in recent years. There were only 38 over the last four seasons, a span covering more than 1,000 games.

The NFL's policy had its intended effect on Ted McDowell, a 47-year-old construction worker from Jacksonville. When the blackout was announced for the home opener against Arizona, he broke down and bought tickets.

"Look, I'd rather be on my couch, watching this game in HD and saving some money," he said. "I'm sure I'm not the only one, either. But it's not going to be like that this year. It's going to be a tough year with the economy like it is.


Pacquiao

Pacquiao ready for heavier Cotto

BOXING

BAGUIO CITY, Philippines—Boxing coach Freddie Roach believes Puerto Rico's Miguel Cotto would "do a Floyd Mayweather" and said he has prepared Manny Pacquiao for that.

"I'm prepared for that possibility," Roach said about Cotto, the World Boxing Organization welterweight champion, going two pounds heavier than the required catch weight of 145 pounds when he fights Pacquiao at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas on Nov. 14.

Mayweather Jr. weighed 146 pounds, instead of the agreed catch weight of 144 pounds, when he pummeled Mexico's Juan Manuel Marquez last Saturday.

Roach said that in the contract they had with Cotto, the Puerto Rican would not be heavily penalized financially if he went beyond the catch weight.

Boxing analyst Frank Lotierzo, writing for sweetscience.com, said "emulating Mayweather" is the Puerto Rican's only realistic chance of beating Pacquiao.

Lotierzo said Pacquiao could easily handle fighting boxers above his normal weight.

"The truth is Pacquiao has handled the move up in weight much better than Marquez. In fact, Manny is one of the few fighters who's carried his big punch into the higher divisions he's fought," Lotierzo said.

Mayweather paid Marquez $600,000 for weighing two pounds over the catch weight.

"But that's no problem," Roach said. "I'm not worried."

"One or two pounds heavier, we are not worried. We have the best fighter here," he said.

Roach did not even remind reporters gathered at the Shape Up Boxing Gym at Cooyeesan Mall here that the last time Pacquiao fought, his opponent (Ricky Hatton) was also two pounds heavier than Pacquiao during their weigh-in last May.

Hatton weighed in at 140 pounds, the catch weight for the light-welterweight division, while Pacquiao weighed 138 pounds. Pacquiao demolished Hatton in only two rounds.

At this early stage, Pacquiao weighed in at 151 pounds. Roach said that the way Pacquiao is training now, it would be an easy time for him to get to the proper weight. ***(PDI)***

FIJI

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of competition.

After shooting a 77 in the first round, Wabol wasn't able to improve on his 20th ranking after heavy rains forced organizers to postpone the second round yesterday at the Rarotonga Golf Club.

"After much deliberation, play for day two has been abandoned. Games organizers have deemed the course too dangerous due to the continuous lightning and thunder. The second day of competition is to resume at 7.30am tomorrow for all with a shotgun start. Another shotgun start for all at 12.30pm will count as round three. All teams are urged to be well rested for tomorrow's 36 holes…weather permitting!" the update from the Mini Games website read.

Manglona, for his part, may have had to shorten his training session because of the bad weather. The Tinian triathlete has time on his side though as triathlon won't be held until Sept. 30.

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president and CNMI delegation chef de mission Michael A. White, for his part, confirmed in an e-mail yesterday that the Commonwealth's contingent is indeed the smallest in the Mini Games.

"Yes, we are the smallest delegation. At least we sent a team, unlike the Marshall Islands, which pulled out at the last minute," he said.

White added that while Wabol wound up 20th out of 31 players in the golf competition in Day 1, the former Oleai Elementary School principal promised to do better in the succeeding rounds.

"Golf started yesterday (Wednesday). Jess shot a 77, which is tied for 20th out of 31 golfers. He hopes to do better today, and definitely still has a chance to move up. One golfer from Tahiti was disqualified from the individual competition because he failed to sign his scorecard," he said.

The golfer White alluded to is Tahiti's Ronald Simon, who has just shot a credible first round score of 74 in the opening round only to be disqualified later after not signing his scorecard.

White also said that the bad weather had not only ruined the second round of golf, but also is threatening to disrupt Manglona's training schedule.

"The good weather deserted us. It's been raining buckets since late last night. I feel sorry for Jess and the golfers, who have to play under these conditions. Joshua hasn't decided whether he wants to risk training in the chilly and wet weather today," he wrote in an e-mail.

It was not all competition for the CNMI's three delegates to the Mini Games though, as White said they were able to watch athletics, netball, and boxing Tuesday.

"Today we will watch whatever is being played indoors," he said.

JI HOON

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Academy, I will go directly to Jeju to play in the ITF tourney. This ITF tourney I will be playing at will be huge! This tournament is really tough as all the best Asian and Oceania players will be coming there to compete," he said.

Heo will not be alone, as CNMI national tennis coach Jeff Race will be there as well as fellow Pacific Oceania players Steffi Carruthes and Abigail Tere-apisah.

The 2009 Asia Oceania Closed Junior Championships is a Grade B 1 level event, which is the highest grade for tournaments outside of Grand Slam events in the ITF calendar. Incidentally, Grand Slam events like the Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon, and U.S. Open are Grade A level events.

"I'm pretty stoked but I hope my back will hold up and I will be able to go by the time it's November," he said.

Before returning home in Sept. 6, the Marianas High School student saw action in the YangGu International Junior Championships-Week 1 2009 and lost to South Korea's Sang Yob Kim in straight sets, 4-6, 3-6, in the first round.

Heo also lost in the doubles when he and teammate Yeong-Mo Yang succumbed to the tandem of Young Hun Lee and Sung Jun Park, 2-6, 4-6.

Despite the twin losses, it was still an eventful three months of off-island competition for Heo. His brightest moment came in the 2009 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Lautoka, Fiji when he went undefeated en route to the title.

A strained back, however, limited Heo's play in the 2009 ITF Oceania Closed Junior Championships held after the POJC and he had to forfeit his matches in the consolation draw.

Coming into Fiji, Heo was ranked No. 1,018 in the world after earning Junior ITF points from tournaments in New Caledonia and Australia.

DEPLETED

From Page 44

lege for two years in the U.S. mainland, showed excellent outside shooting and controlled the boards to lead the team to the win, banging in 27 points

"We have 12 players in the team but as you can see, half of them showed up today. Where are the others? This has always been our problem," said Cloud, who before this league has not played organized basketball the last five years since graduating from Clark State Community College in Ohio.

He said despite their losing record, they still have a chance to make it to the playoffs if only his teammates show up to the games.

One of CPA-Accounting's key men, Chris Camacho, was injured in their previous game and will be a doubtful starter when they take on Bank of Guam on Sept. 28.

Diaz, meanwhile, backed up Cloud with 13 points, nine of them in the second quarter.

CPA-Accounting started pulling away in the third, scoring 16 points while limiting Docomo to only 10 for a 45-36 advantage going into the fourth quarter.

Kelvin Fitial hit from three-point range to cap a 15-9 Docomo run that chopped their deficit to three points, 51-54, with 3:42 left in the contest.

CPA-Accounting answered right back as Diaz hit two from underneath, while Aaron split his free throws for a 57-51 count.

James Villacrusis sank one of two from the foul line for Docomo but the team failed to take advantage of two 24-second violations in two offensive plays by CPA-Accounting.

Docomo then went to the land of last resort, but Villacrusis, Wowee Abuel, and Cuki Alvarez missed all their attempts from beyond the three-point line.

CPA-Accounting's Schuler canned two free throws off a foul by Kae Bernardo with 33 seconds to go. Fitial then went to the stripe on a technical foul call on Yangilmau, his fifth and final.

Fitial muffed his first and then sank the second but Docomo ran out of time and absorbed its second defeat in five games to drop from fourth to fifth.

Villacrusis finished with 16 points, Abuel had 11, while Bernardo and Fitial chipped in 10 apiece.

In the first game, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs rebounded from its loss to league-leading IT&E with a 96-81 victory over Commonwealth Health Center.

It was DCCA's third win in seven outings and it spoiled the season-high 44 points of CHC's Edgar Pangelinan. It was the first back-to-back loss of CHC, which now sports a 3-3 card.

Romeo Iginoef and Taj Van Buren led DCCA with 28 and 24 points, respectively, while Ponce Rasa had 18. Ben Lisua also scored 18 for CHC.

First Game

DCCA 96 – Iginoeff, 28, Van Buren 24, Rasa 18, Rangamar 11, Rogolifoi 8, C. Camacho 5, Igitol 2.

CHC 81 – Pangelinan 44, Lisua 16, Diaz 9, Duenas 4, Kwon 4, Seidler 4.

Scoring by quarters: 25-12, 50-41, 71-61, 96-81.

Second Game

CPA-Accounting 59 – Cloud 27, Diaz 14, Maratita 9, Schuler 6, Aaron 3.

NTT DOCOMO 53 – Villacrusis 16, Abuel 11, Bernardo 10, Fitial 10, Lee 6.

Scoring by quarters: 13-7, 29-26, 45-36, 59-53.

WRESTLER

From Page 44

While 50-some-year-old wrestlers and 40-some-year-old strippers are conceivable, 60-year-old wrestlers and 50-year-old strippers are, well, I don't want to imagine that.

"The Wrestler" is a modern day tragedy. The two main characters are both likable even though they do despicable things. They are deeply flawed, trapped in lifestyles and careers they chose for themselves decades earlier when their bodies were in their prime but now barely making it with their futures dim and dreams evaporating.

The movie is rated R for violence, sex, and drug use and is not suitable for young people.

I rented the DVD and watched it recently. With the movie still fresh in my mind, I now read that a former great football player is coming out of retirement, not to play football but mixed martial arts. Forty-seven-year-old Herschel Walker has signed with Strikeforce.

My first thought was, "Oh, no! He's too old!" He may be the best 47-year-old athlete in the world but he's still 47. MMA is real fighting, unlike professional wrestling. However, UFC superstar Randy Couture is 46 and look at him.

My second thought was, "Go for it, Herschel!" You only live once and want to accomplish as much as you can. See Brett Favre. Or Jason Tarkong.

Walker has a brown belt in taekwondo so is not completely unfamiliar with fighting. But the ending to "The Wrestler" is not pretty. I wonder if Herschel saw the movie. If he did, perhaps he would reconsider.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-New York	97	56	.634	—
Boston	90	61	.596	6
Tampa Bay	78	74	.513	18 1/2
Toronto	69	83	.454	27 1/2
Baltimore	60	92	.395	36 1/2

Central Division

Detroit	81	70	.536	—
Minnesota	79	73	.520	2 1/2
Chicago	73	80	.477	9
Kansas City	63	89	.414	18 1/2
Cleveland	61	90	.404	20

West Division

Los Angeles	90	62	.592	—
Texas	83	68	.550	6 1/2
Seattle	79	73	.520	11
Oakland	72	80	.474	18

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	88	63	.583	—
Atlanta	82	70	.539	6 1/2
Florida	82	71	.536	7
New York	65	88	.425	24
Washington	52	99	.344	36

Central Division

St. Louis	89	64	.582	—
Chicago	78	73	.517	10
Milwaukee	75	77	.493	13 1/2
Cincinnati	71	81	.467	17 1/2
Houston	71	81	.467	17 1/2
Pittsburgh	56	94	.373	31 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	91	61	.599	—
Colorado	86	66	.566	5
San Francisco	82	70	.539	9
San Diego	70	83	.458	21 1/2
Arizona	66	87	.431	25 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Cincinnati 12, Pittsburgh 2
Washington 5, L.A. Dodgers 4
Atlanta 5, N.Y. Mets 2
Florida 7, Philadelphia 6
Milwaukee 3, Chicago Cubs 2
Houston 3, St. Louis 0
San Diego 6, Colorado 3
San Francisco 5, Arizona 2
N.Y. Yankees 3, L.A. Angels 2
Detroit 11, Cleveland 3
Toronto 7, Baltimore 3
Tampa Bay 5, Seattle 4
Boston 9, Kansas City 2
Minnesota 8, Chicago White Sox 6
Texas 9, Oakland 8

y-clinched playoff berth

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

ROTARY STANDINGS

Sonics	4	0
G-Stars	2	0
Runnin' Rebels	3	1
Sparks	3	1
Sixers	3	1
670 Rollers 2	2	2
Rollers 1	2	3
Saints	1	3
Ol'Aces	1	4
Young 670 Rollers 3	0	2
Hi-5	0	2
Celtics	0	3

GOVT CAGE STANDINGS

IT&E	9	0
Hyatt	2	0
Tinian	3	1
Docomo	3	2
MBI	4	3
PSS	4	4
CHC	3	3
BOG	3	4
DCCA	3	4
Customs	1	3
CPA	1	5
ARFF	0	7

Champion teams asked to join Budweiser caging

The Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands will only be accepting champion teams in the 2009 Budweiser Basketball League scheduled to tip off in November.

BANMI president Elias Rangamar said to be able to join the competition, a team must be crowned champion in any basketball league in the CNMI and only the first 10 teams to sign up will be accepted.

"This is the time for these champion teams to prove that they are really worth their crowns," he said.

Rangamar added that all teams would be provided complete uniforms and each team must have 10 players in its rosters. Teams will only be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

"Due to the economic situation that we are in right now we have not set an entrance fee and this won't be decided until the first meeting. Budweiser will provide the team uniforms by using their products and all the interested participating teams will have to come up with only the entrance fee which will be decided in the first meeting," said Rangamar.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

PTI's Bruce Berline, left, drives against an Aguaguat player during their game in the Inaugural IT&E Inter-Government/Busienss Basketball League last year at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Sponsors of the upcoming 2009 Budweiser Basketball League include Tan Holdings, Joeten Enterprises, Saipan Grand Hotel, IT&E, DFS Galleria, McDonald's Saipan, Shell Marianas, MARPAC-Budweiser, and Rotary Club of Saipan.

Rangamar also added that BANMI will use the Budweiser caging to select the future members of the CNMI Men's National Team.

"The players will be chosen based on their performance in the league. The criteria for selecting the players and coaches will be announced later," he said.

Rangamar said BANMI is planning to send a men's and women's team to New Caledonia next year, the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau, as well as in the Marianas Invitational Youth Basketball Tournament.

To this end, Rangamar said BANMI will use the Budweiser caging as a fundraiser for the above-mentioned off-island competitions.

He reiterated that BANMI is the only basketball organization in the CNMI that is sanctioned or a member of FIBA.

BANMI director Abner Venus, meanwhile, said they will input into the FIBA Organizer all coaches and players who participate in the BANMI-sanctioned leagues as part of the BANMI membership system.

He also said that FIBA international referee and current BANMI Referee Association president Gabriel White will assist BANMI in conducting a coaches and referees clinic.

For more information about the Budweiser caging, call Rangamar at 664-2502. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

Art of War reset due to unavailability of venue

Due to unavailability of venues, Trench Tech Purebread Gym has reset the Art of War IV: All Island Grappling/Submission Challenge from Oct. 10 to Nov. 14.

Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez explained, in an e-mail message to all mixed martial enthusiasts, that they decided to postpone the event to a later date "due to circumstances beyond their control."

He said that the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan and other public facilities such as the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and Northern Marianas College Gymnasium would not be available on the event's original date of Oct. 10.

"I am very sorry for the inconvenience that this date change may have caused some of you," Alvarez said.

But the good news, he said, is that it gives everyone a few more weeks to prepare and train to win the gold.

Alvarez reminded that this tournament is a No Gi contest and interested competitors can sign up at the Trench Tech Gym anytime from Monday to Saturday from 5pm to 8pm.

The entry fee is $25 per weight class.

Registration forms are now available at the Trench Tech Gym in Afetnas or e-mail him at trenchwarriorsaipan@yahoo.com to print a

Alvarez said it will be Japan vs. Saipan in the super fight. He, however, still didn't disclose the fighters that will see action in the main event.

The tournament will be a single-elimination format, with the winner advancing to the next round, while the loser will vie for the consolation place in the losers' bracket. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Trench Tech has postponed Art of War IV: All Island Grappling/Submissions Challenge from Oct. 10 to Nov. 14 due to unavailability of a venue.

Women's Futsal League kicks off Oct. 10

The 2009 NMIFA Women's Futsal League will kick off on Oct. 10 at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium.

"The NMIFA Women's Committee is gearing up for their second season of Futsal. Players can join one of the five registered football clubs, or are welcome to organize their own team and register with the Women's Committee," said its director Lindsay Davis.

She said the edition of the 2009 Futsal season will run from Oct. 10 to Dec. 20 with games played at NMC Gym every Saturday morning.

In addition, Davis said registration for new players and a bootcamp for all players interested will be held at Saipan International School in As Lito tomorrow, Sept. 26, 9am-11am.

She said club representatives will be present at the Sept. 26 registration/bootcamp. For more information, contact Davis at lindsayfrombigsky@gmail.com.

Incorporated to the CNMI Women's National Football Team's training regimen in April 2008, the fringe sport was transformed into a full-fledged league in September 2008 with the start of the 2008 NMIFA Women's Futsal League.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI lady strikers in action in a Futsal tournament in Guam in 2007. NMIFA will kick off its 2009 NMIFA Women's Futsal League on Oct. 10 at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium.

Futsal is an indoor football game with teams having five players each on the court. It demands quick reflexes, fast thinking, and accurate ball control. Games are played in a basketball-style court, with no walls and a low-bouncing ball, requiring players to use their skill rather than the ball's bounce to propel it.

Wild Bill's ruled the Inaugural 2008 NMIFA Women's Futsal Fall League after defeating five other teams for the championship.

Wild Bill's secured the title after shutting out Marianas Technical Institute in the finals, 3-0. The Law Offices of Matt Smith downed Marianas Medical Center, 3-1, in the battle for third place. Aon Insurance and Hardt Eye Clinic tied for fifth place.

The champion squad was captained by Jamie Beavis and was composed of Fedora Camacho, Mel Borja, Maria Ornes, Connie Camacho, Nola Hix, Veronica Saures, Catherine Anderson, Lindsay Davis, and Chirapan McGuire. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

670 Rollers II beats Ol'Aces, 64-44

The 670 Rollers II easily defeated Ol'Aces, 64-44, last Wednesday night in the 2009 Saipan Rotary Youth Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Sheen Metran led the way with 20 points, while Jim Brell added 10 for Rollers II, which gave Ol'Aces no space to recover after erecting a 39-21 halftime lead.

Trevor Ogumoro led Ol'Aces in offence with 14 markers, while Luther Taylor had 10 points.

The loss spoiled Ol'Aces' overwhelming win over Rollers I last Sept. 17.

Both teams have retained their current positions in the 12-team field league.

Rollers II improved to a 2-2 win-loss record—good for sixth place, while Ol'Aces sits in ninth spot at 1-4.

Two games were being played as of presstime last night. League-leading Sonics were eyeing their fifth win is as many games against the cellar-dwelling Celtics (0-3) at 5pm.

Also scheduled at 6pm last night was the game between Hi-5 and the Sixers.

The Sixers came into the game with a 3-1 record in a tie with the Sparks, while Hi-5 was still groping for form with a 0-2 card.

Games today starting at 5pm will be between Young 670 Rollers (0-2) and the G-Stars (2-0).

670 Rollers II 64 – Metran 20, Brell 13, Lisua 10, Kaipat 8, Maratita 5, Palacios 4, Ogo 2, Danas 2.

Ol'Aces 44 – Ogumoro 14, Taylor 10, Tomokane 6, Ngirahongor 4, Deleon 2, E. Dillay 2, D. Dillay 2, Chargualaf 2, Deleon Guerrero 2.

Scoring by halves: 39-21, 64-44. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

Senate chief golf fundraiser hopes to draw crowd

The tournament director of Senate President Pete P. Reyes' golf fundraiser this weekend hopes to draw 80-90 participants to the event.

Former Department of Community and Cultural Affairs director Juan L. Babauta said the more golfers that take part in the fundraiser, the better for the fundraising drive of the longtime lawmaker's re-election campaign.

Reyes

The golf fundraiser will be held tomorrow, Sept 26, at the Marianas Country Club in Marpi. It will have a 9am check-in time and a tee time of 10am.

Babauta said the tournament will be using the ever-popular double peoria format with the Top 5 finishers taking home major prizes.

Winners will also be declared in four flights—championship, A, B, and C. Other exciting prizes will also we given out, Babauta said, including $5,000 for the first player to make a hole-in-one in hole No. 16.

The tournament will also have other competitions like a closest to the pin contest and skills challenge.

Entry fee for the golf fundraiser is $100 and Babauta said that an awards banquet will be held immediately after the tournament at the Marianas Country Club grounds. A raffle drawing will also be held during the awards banquet. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Champion cage teams asked to join Budweiser caging

The Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands will only be accepting champion teams in the 2009 Budweiser Basketball League scheduled to tip off in November. 43

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Yankees edge Angels 3-2 to win series

A.J. Burnett struck out 11 in just his second win since July as the New York Yankees won a series at Anaheim for the first time since 2004 with a 3-2 victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Wednesday. 40

Fiji leads Mini Games medal count

WWW.SPORTINGPULSE.COM
Powerhouse Fiji is dominating the athletics event of the 2009 Pacific Mini Games with four gold medals.

WWW.SPORTINGPULSE.COM
Heavy rain and lightning canceled round two of golf competition yesterday at the Rarotonga Golf Club.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tinian's Joshua Manglona, left, of triathlon and Jess Wabol pose with their hostess at the opening ceremony of the 2009 Pacific Mini Games.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Powerhouse Fiji is currently leading the medal standings of the 2009 Pacific Mini Games in Rarotonga, Cook Islands with a medal haul of four gold, two silver, and a bronze.

All its gold medals come from athletics—Niko Verekauta in the men's 100m sprint, Varasiko Toge Tomeru in the men's 800m, Makelesi Bulikiobo in the women's 100m, and Kavita Maharaj in the women's 800m.

Solomon Islands is a surprise second with three gold medals, which like Fiji's also came from track and field—Chris Votu in the men's 3,000m steeplechase and men's 1,000m and Betty Babalu women's 5,000m.

Tonga currently is in third place in the medal standings with two gold, one silver, and one bronze. Its gold medals all came courtesy of Ana Po'uhila in the women's discus throw and women's hammer throw.

Tahiti (1 gold, 4 silver, and 2 bronze), New Caledonia (1 gold, 2 silver, and 3 bronze), Samoa (1 silver and 1 bronze), Vanuatu (1 silver), Niue (1 bronze), and Cook Islands (1 bronze) also made it into the medal tally.

Meanwhile, CNMI athletes Jess Wabol of golf and Joshua Manglona of triathlon were bogged down by rain in Day 2

See FIJI on Page 42

Ji Hoon set to train in South Korea

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

CNMI netter Ji Hoon Heo is currently back home to recover from his injuries, but the winner of the boys' 18-and-under division of the 2009 Pacific Oceania Junior Championship will be not be on Saipan for long.

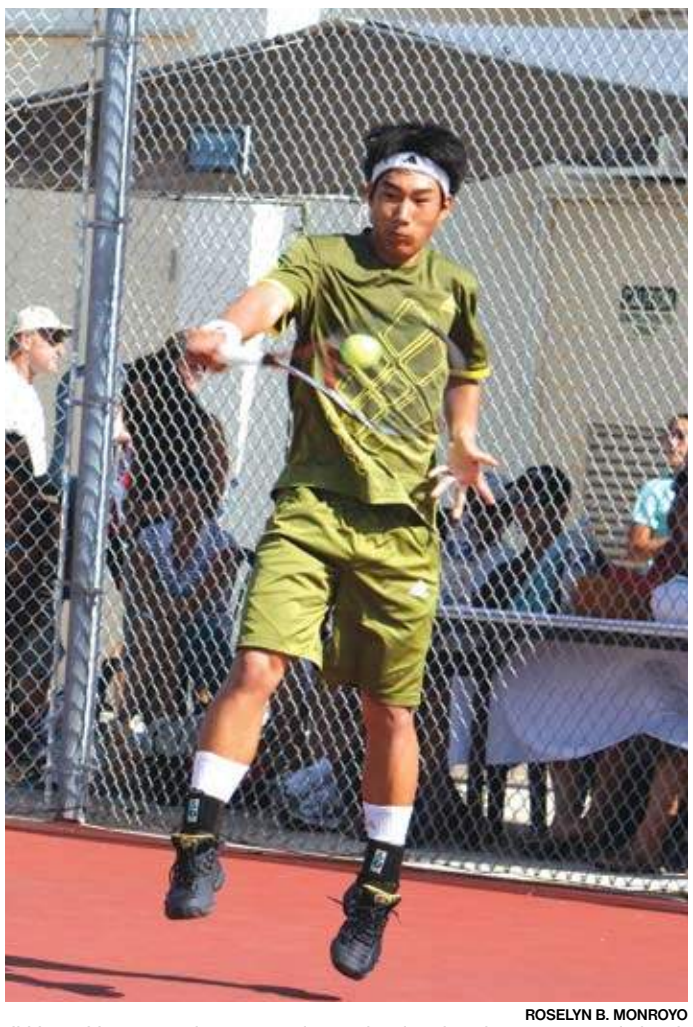
In an e-mail to the *Saipan Tribune*, Heo said he will be leaving for South Korea later this month or mid-October to train in one of the country's top tennis center, Gimcheon JSM Academy.

He said the center is Top 3 in South Korea when it comes to developing tennis players. In fact, he said, many of the country's national players train there.

Heo said he will train at Gimcheon JSM Academy from two to three weeks and from there he will fly to Jeju, South Korea, and compete in the 2009 Asia Oceania Closed Junior Championships set in early November.

"So from Gimcheon JSM

See JI HOON on Page 42



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ji Hoon Heo, seen here returning a shot in a local tournament, is back home after an eventful three months of off-island competition.

Depleted CPA nails first win against Docomo

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Port Authority-Accounting finally barged into the win column Wednesday night after scoring a 59-53 upset over NTT Docomo in the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Despite playing with a depleted lineup, CPA-Accounting controlled the game from start to finish to improve to a win-loss record of 1-5.

CPA-Accounting nearly lost the game via forfeiture with only four players—Jeff Cloud, former national player Ed Diaz, Kirk Schuler, and K.G. Yangilmau—showing up before tip-off.

But thanks to Barrie Maratita, who arrived a split second before the forfeit time elapsed, CPA-Accounting was able to play. Another player, Jun Aaron, came minutes later in the first quarter.

Cloud, who played in col-

See DEPLETED on Page 42

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
CPA Accounting's Ed Diaz lays it up for two points against three NTT Docomo defenders in their 59-53 win in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

'The Wrestler'

The all-time list of great sports movies is not that long. "Rocky", "Field of Dreams", "Hoosiers", "Raging Bull", and "Bull Durham" stand out. Add "The Wrestler" to that short list.

Released early this year, the film realistically depicts an aging professional wrestler who should get out of the business for health reasons but does not because he lives for his fans, it's the only life he knows and he needs the money.

Professional wrestling is not true sport because the matches are fixed, but wrestlers are strong, agile athletes. The movie shows backstage camaraderie among the fighters that belies the brutal animosity they display in the ring. If you don't like to see blood, then you may not want to watch this gritty cinema masterpiece.

Mickey Rourke plays Randy "the Ram" Robinson, a star in the 1980s who didn't save enough money to retire and struggles financially. He gets by working small wrestling shows and part-time in a grocery store while living in a rundown trailer park.

During his heyday, he was hugely successful but now he is in his 50s and fading. Thanks to steroids and tanning salons he remains a great physical specimen, but the years of physical abuse have taken their toll on his heart and back. He also struggles emotionally, trying to reconcile with the daughter he abandoned and establishing a romantic relationship with a single 40-something stripper/mother.

Although the movie is about wrestling, the sport is only a vehicle to examine the human condition. As Dirty Harry said, "A man has to know his limitations." As Jack Kerouac explained, "We have to move on to the later phases of our lives." The Ram did neither.

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OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2